FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 FEBRUARY 1987

Lebanon

Hostage Crisis — Intensive talks involving Syria are under way to secure the release of Western hostages in exchange for Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners held by Israel, according to Shi'ite sources in Beirut cited by AFP. In Israel, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said his country will be prepared to make "concessions" in order to ensure the return of the Israeli airman held in Lebanon, *Davar* noted. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told Jerusalem television that Israel has not received any U.S. appeal concerning the hostages, but he added that if an appeal is received, Israel will "think about it." IDF radio reported earlier that the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine has given the International Red Cross a list of the 400 prisoners they want Israel to release in exchange for their 4 hostages. The radio said the list comprises 90 Palestinians and 310 Lebanese, who are mostly Shi'ites.

A Libyan commentator cited by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio viewed the possibility of exchanging a "worthless" Israeli airman for 400 Arab prisoners as "shameful" and "an insult to the pride of the Arab person."

Camps War — Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri informed his colleagues in Beirut that negotiations in Damascus have resulted in another cease-fire agreement, Beirut radio reported 11 February. The Palestinians will allow Amal to take up its former positions east of Sidon, while Amal will allow supplies into the Burj al-Barajinah camp in Beirut.

Iran-Iraq War

Resumption of Bombing — An Iranian military spokesman cited by IRNA warned that an Iranian attack on Baghdad is imminent in retaliation for fresh Iraqi air attacks on Iranian cities 11 February. Residential areas in Qom, Tabriz, Navahand, Borujerd, Kuhdasht, and Orumiyeh were attacked while inhabitants were holding revolution anniversary rallies, and Iraqi planes also overflew Tehran and other cities, breaking the sound barrier.

Khomeyni Speech — Martyrdom in the cause of Islam is a "great blessing" and a source of joy not sorrow, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni declared in a 10 February speech broadcast by Tehran radio. He urged foreign guests in the audience to explain this view to people in their own countries. Iran is pursuing the war for "divine motivations," not for expansionism, nor for supremacy, nor for "this world," Khomeyni asserted. The Islamic revolutionaries seek to save Islam from the superpowers, from foreign "criminals," and from "deviatory" tendencies, in order that Islamic rule and justice can spread throughout the world. Khomeyni said there is "general enthusiasm" for the war, despite "exceptions," stating that civilians call for "war until victory" amid the rubble of their bombed houses, while young combatants advance against heavy fire "with dignity, high-spirited and full of joy."

Jordan's Relations With Syria, PLO

President Hafiz al-Asad and King Husayn held a "closed meeting" in Damascus during which they reviewed regional developments and bilateral relations, Amman television reported.

The Amman paper *Sawt al-Sha'b* disclosed that the joint Palestinian-Jordanian "steadfastness" committee will meet 14 February, noting that PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir will lead the Palestinian side. The Jordanian side will include several government ministers.

PDRY-USSR

In a banquet speech carried by TASS, CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev pledged the Soviet Union's "unfailing support" for the PDRY. The agency reported that talks between Soviet officials and the PDRY delegation headed by YSP General Secretary 'Ali Salim al-Bid took place in a "warm and comradely atmosphere" and will give "new impetus to the strengthening of friendly relations."

DRA

Najibullah Interview — "Afghanistan has never been a communist country," PDPA General Secretary Najibullah declared in remarks to the FRG weekly *Die Zeit* cited by DPA. Najibullah admitted differences within the party over the cease-fire offer, but he said that the U.S. "adventurous and aggressive policy" is the main obstacle to reconciliation.

Relations With India — Foreign Minister 'Abdol Wakil, who completed a 3-day visit to India during which he was received by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, told BAKHTAR that bilateral friendly relations and cooperation were expanded.

Pakistani Protest — The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to receive a "strong protest" over "unprovoked attacks," Karachi radio reported, adding that four civilians were killed when Afghan warplanes bombed the Domandi area 4 February and five soldiers were killed when the DRA shelled the same area 6 February.

Libya

In response to French President Francois Mitterrand's assertion that French forces are in Chad at the invitation of the legitimate government, a Foreign Liaison Bureau spokesman reaffirmed Libya's position that the French troops are an "imperialist occupation force," Tripoli radio reported. As for action in the combat zone, Ndjemena radio reported that Libyan warplanes continued to bomb Fada.

Sudan

Ethiopian involvement in shelling the Upper Nile border town of Jokau 7-10 February constituted a "shameful and clear offensive" against Sudan, according to a military official cited by Omdurman radio.

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Meetings Continue in Syria To End Camps War
JN101909 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Meetings are continuing in Damascus to find a solution to the tragedy of Lebanon's camps war and to resolve some of the problems in Lebanon. The meeting that began last night between Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and the expanded PSL delegation led by Walid Junblatt was resumed this morning.

In a statement to journalists after the meeting, Junblatt said: We discussed ways to stop the shelling of Beirut's southern suburb from the [Al-Shuf] Mountain [by the Palestinians]. We shall seek to carry out necessary and possible measures. We expect we have a 70 or 80 percent chance of achieving a result. However, I also hope we can embark on a serious discussion of the entire Lebanese question and the camps war, so we can end the war between the allies and unify the Lebanese and Palestinian guns against the Phalange Party and Israel.

It appears Syrian efforts have once again succeeded in healing the rift between Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt. A meeting, interrupted by a working luncheon, has held today and was attended by leaders of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], led by Walid Junblatt, and Amal leaders, led by Nabih Birri. According to the conferees, they discussed coordination on developments in the camps war and maintaining security in West Beirut.

Junblatt left for Beirut in the evening to supervise the implementation agreements on military and security matters. Prior to Junblatt's departure, another meeting was held at the residence of 'Abd al-Salam Jallud. The meeting was attended by PNSF leaders and representatives of seven Palestinian factions, as well Walid Junblatt and Lebanese Communist Party Secretary General George Hawi. The meeting was resumed after Junblatt's departure and was attended by [PSP members] Marwan Hamadah and Riyad. The conferees are now trying to find a new formula for a cease-fire to end the camps war.

'Arafat Message to Gorbachev
JN101453 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1350 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Tunis, 10 Feb (WAKH) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat sent an urgent message today to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on the serious developments in Lebanon's Palestinian camps. It has been learned from a Palestinian source that this is the second message that Yasir 'Arafat has sent to the Soviet leadership in the past 72 hours. In his message, the Palestinian leader urged the Soviet leadership to intervene immediately and to use its influence to stop the war of annihilation against Palestinians in Lebanon.

Yasir 'Arafat also sent an urgent cable today to Zuhdi al-Tarazi, the PLO's UN representative, calling for an emergency Security Council session to discuss the continuous aggression against the Palestinians in the Lebanese camps, to find a way to stop this aggression, and to guarantee the arrival of supplies and medical aid to the camps.

Radio Notes Contacts To Reunify Palestinian Ranks
JN101936 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1815 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The members of the PFLP and DFLP delegations to the Palestinian Writers and Journalists Federation conference in Algiers have affirmed that the repeated meetings between the Fatah Movement representatives and the other Palestinian factions have gone beyond the limits of the conference, which will certainly succeed. The meetings are also to pave the way to reunify all the PLO factions.

KUWAIT

Al-'Usaymi Returns From 3-Day Visit to YAR

LD102112 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Kuwait, 10 Feb (KUNA) — Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Kuwait this evening following a 3-day visit to the YAR. During the visit, Minister al-'Usaymi had a meeting with President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and conveyed a message to him from the amir of Kuwait. He also held talks with a number of Yemeni officials on relations between the two countries and on the latest developments in the Arab arena.

SAUDI ARABIA

UK Defense Secretary Signs Training Agreement

LD101212 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1105 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Riyadh, 10 Feb (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, and British Defense Secretary George Younger, signed an agreement at the Defense Ministry this morning within the framework of the Al-Yamamah Air Force project. The agreeement covers the training aspects of this project. The meeting was attended on the Saudi side by 'Uthman al-Hamid, assistant to the minister of defense and aviation for military affairs; General Muhammad Salih al-Hamad, chief of General Staff; and Major General Ahmad al-Buhayri, acting Air Force commander. The meeting was attended on the British side by the delegation accompanying his excellency the British defense secretary; Stephen Egerton, the British ambassador to the Kingdom; the British military attache; and a number of officials at the British Embassy.

Makes Predeparture Statement

LD102156 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1850 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Riyadh, 10 Feb (SPA) — British Secretary of Defense George Younger said that his visit to the Kingdom was successful, constructive, and achieved its objectives.

In a press statement before leaving Riyadh at the conclusion of his official visit to the Kingdom, his excellency expressed his pleasure at the honor of meeting His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard. His Excellency George Younger described his talks with His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense, and inspector general, as good and dominated by an amiable atmosphere.

He also expressed his pleasure and gratitude at visiting the Kingdom for the second time at the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, pointing out he had paid a visit to the Kingdom last May, during which he had met His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for the first time; attended the graduation ceremony of Saudi Royal Air Force students; and saw the first of the six Tornado aircraft that had arrived in the Kingdom and are now being operated by the Saudi Royal Air Force.

George Younger explained that his talks with His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz focused on two main topics; namely, the Al-Yamamah project and the economic equilibrium program connected with the project.

His excellency stated: regarding the first subject, it pleases me to announce that agreement has been reached during my meeting with His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on another point in the project; i.e., training. I can say that what we agreed upon today will be a source of pleasure for both the Saudi and the British Governments, and we are looking forward to continuing our joint and successful cooperation.

The British defense secretary added that regarding the economic equilibrium program, a successful discussion was conducted on the question of holding a meeting for a Saudi-British committee to discuss the program. Britain emphasizes its strong commitment to this program and is looking forward toward more discussions to start the projects.

His excellency announced in this regard that he has agreed with His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz that experts from both countries should set up the committee and hold its first meeting shortly.

The British defense secretary pointed out the fact that the Al-Yamamah project includes 132 aircraft and huge quantities of auxiliary equipment, including weapons and the training of thousands of Saudis, all to be supplied by the end of 1991.

He said: Six Tornado aircraft were supplied to the Saudi Royal Air Force within weeks of contracting the agreement; the navigators have been trained, and the aircraft are equipped and now ready for service. His excellency announced that the second group of Tornado aircraft and the first set of PC-9 training aircraft will arrive in the Kingdom shortly. In addition to that, more equipment and trained Saudi pilots will also arrive. He pointed out that the equipment used for training pilots in the Kingdom has recently arrived, and this was within less than 12 months.

His excellency lauded what he saw of the abilities, advanced equipment, and trained national cadres during his visits to King 'Abd al-'Aziz Air Base in Dhahran and King 'Abd al-'Aziz Naval Base in Al-Jubayl. He praised the increasingly close ties between the Saudi Royal Navy and the British Royal Navy, which he acknowledged during his visit to King Fahd Royal Naval Academy. He expressed his happiness in meeting His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad ibn Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of the Eastern Region, during his visit there.

He expressed his hopes that his country will be able to respond to anything asked of it in developing the Saudi Armed Forces, so that they can fulfill their role.

His Excellency George Younger praised the advanced medical accomplishments and the thorough health care provided to citi-

zens by the Armed Forces Hospital in Riyadh, which he visited earlier today.

He described Saudi-British relations as strong and firm, and said the best indication of this is the upcoming visit to Britain by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud next month, which follows the successful visit to the Kingdom by the prince and princess of Wales last November.

George Younger said the exchange of visits between the two countries' officials is bound to help greatly promote ties of friendship between Britain and the Kingdom, stressing that his country's government does everything in its power to maintain these relations.

UAE

Al-'Utaybah Discusses Current Oil Issues

JN101542 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1140 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 Feb (WAKH) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, has said that OPEC will hold an extraordinary meeting and again lower its oil output to keep prices at their current level if it finds the measures it adopted at its meeting in Geneva in December are not sufficient to maintain oil market stability.

In a statement transmitted live by UAE radio in Abu Dhabi this morning, the UAE minister said the GCC states are determined to support the latest OPEC agreement; defend the current price of $18 per barrel; maintain the current stability in the oil market; and keep it free of rumors, psychological warfare, and the speculations of oil companies.

The UAE minister, who is also chairman of the GCC Oil Cooperation Committee, said the committee, which concluded its 11th meeting in Abu Dhabi yesterday, discussed the latest developments in the oil market and its possibilities in the next few months, when the demand for oil in the summer will decrease.

In his statement, carried by WAM, the UAE minister added that at their meeting the GCC oil ministers discussed the use by the consuming countries and their oil companies of the strategic oil reserves that they have accumulated in past years, amounting to around 300 million barrels. He indicated that the amount used this month from the strategic reserves was roughly 2.7 million barrels per day, and this is the rate that OPEC expected when it reached its last agreement in Geneva. The minister expressed the hope that the surplus oil will be consumed during the current winter season so as to restore oil market stability and to put an end to the use of oil reserves to lower prices.

Dr Al-'Utaybah praised the stands of some non-OPEC oil-producing countries that have responded positively to OPEC's endeavors to stabilize the oil market. He referred to the positive results of the contacts held by Hisham al-Nazir, Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral resources, with Egyptian, Soviet, and Norwegian officials. He also referred to the personal contacts he held with officials of some other countries.

The UAE minister affirmed that the contacts with non-OPEC oil-producing countries were positive. He added that these countries had reduced their oil output by 5 percent and commited themselves to fixed official prices after they had adopted a pricing policy based on spot market prices. He expressed the hope that the non-OPEC producing countries would honor their commitments stipulating that they will reduce their oil output and commit themselves to an official price, regardless of the pressures exerted on them. He said: We in OPEC are ready to review and study any complaint from OPEC or non-OPEC oil-producing states, and to deflect and remove any pressures that may be exerted on them as a result of their adherence to an official price and a fixed production ceiling.

The UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources said that the price war in the oil-producing countries in 1986 was a difficult experience for everyone, whether OPEC or non-OPEC oil producers, or consumers. He added that this war was aimed at OPEC's obtaining a fair share of the oil market after its oil output dropped to 15 million barrels per day in 1985.

Dr Al-'Utaybah said that the producing and consuming countries are now convinced that stable prices at the rate of $18-20 per barrel would be acceptable to all. He said this will help economic growth in the producing countries without harming the economies of the consuming countries. He added that the stability of this price will significantly reduce oil consumption and prevent people from looking at it as a cheap source of energy that can be wasted. At the same time, the minister said, this stability will fairly preserve the value of the investments made to exploit alternative energy sources. He also expressed the hope that oil market stability and a stable price of $18 per barrel will remove the damage done to the economies of the oil-producing countries as a result of the price war. He said that the majority of oil-producing countries are developing countries that need fixed and reasonable rates of income to finance their economic and social plans and to overcome the negative effects of the price war.

Foreign Minister, Israeli Ambassador Hold Talks

NC101422 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1405 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 10 Feb (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Moshe Sason, Israel's ambassador to Cairo, today. They discussed efforts to stimulate the Middle East peace process. Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed during the meeting that an international conference on Middle East peace is a practical way to hold talks between the parties concerned, with the aim of bringing about a comprehensive, just, and lasting settlement, guaranteeing the rights of all the nations and countries in the region.

Presidential Envoy To Deliver Message to Habre

NC110631 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Ambassador Muhammad al-Khazandar, African affairs expert at the Foreign Ministry, will leave Cairo for Ndjamena tomorrow as a special envoy of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. He will take a message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to Chadian President Hissein Habre, as part of the continuing consultations between the two presidents on the various developments in the Chadian issue. Al-Khazandar's visit is taking place in light of the discussions held between Presidents Mubarak and Habre at the ICO summit in Kuwait, and in light of the ICO resolution on current events in Chad.

AL-AKHBAR Appeals for Intervention in Camps War

NC110458 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 10 Feb (MENA) — *Al-Akhbar* is surprised and astonished that the world was gripped by a state of waiting, fear, and panic on Monday at midnight, the time set by the ultimatum from one of the Lebanese organizations to execute the four U.S. hostages in Beirut. Yet, the world does not move when the cries of Palestinian refugees rise from inside their camps, appealing for help from the 135-day siege imposed on them by which the Amal Shi'ite militia prevents the entry of any food or medicine to the camps.

In its editorial tomorrow, Wednesday, the paper says that of all the fighting in Lebanon, only the camps battles have continued nonstop since 30 September. The number of victims has reached 577 dead, 2,272 injured, and thousands of refugees. With the support and backing of Syria, the Shi'ite militias have started to turn this war into a war of starvation against the Palestinian refugees, indifferent to any humane appeals. The cries of children and the pain of the untreated wounded do not stop these militias from continuing this war. *Al-Akhbar* asks: Where are the Arabs when all this is happening in Lebanon? Do they not find the courage to stop this human tragedy there? Do they not have the courage to deter those working to inflame the war in Lebanon? Do they not have the ability to save those innocent refugees from the flames of war and starvation? *Al-Akhbar* appeals to the world conscience in the name of humanity to intervene quickly to end this shameful tragedy in Lebanon. It also appeals to the Arab leaders to stop these crimes against a dispersed people.

Al-Azhar Imam Calls for Aid

NC101356 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] His eminence the grand imam of Al-Azhar, Shaykh Jad al-Haq 'Ali Jad al-Haq, today issued a statement addressed to the warring factions in Lebanon. He said that fraternity, particularly among neighbors, is urged by religious and secular laws alike. The grand imam expressed his concern and deep sorrow over the damage being done to man's dignity and rights. Al-Azhar, he said, reiterates its call for fraternity, cooperation, and good neighborliness to be restored.

The grand imam of Al-Azhar called on the factions plotting against the Palestinians to come to their senses and help their brothers instead of fighting them. He pleaded with Arab and Islamic countries, as well as all other nations, to work together to protect the rights of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and end their plight.

Shaykh Jad al-Haq also appealed to international relief organizations to come to the aid of the hungry women and children stranded in the acute conditions of the camps. Al-Azhar, he said, supports the Palestinians and their cause. The grand imam praised the Palestinians for their endurance and firmness in such adverse and testing times.

Zaki Badr Criticized For Threatening Opposition

PM101559 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 2 Feb 87 p 10

[Muhammad 'Amir article under the rubric "Word of Truth": "You Ought To Thank the Opposition, Mr Major General"]

[Text] We praise the police role in protecting citizens; it is a role that cannot be ignored. We especially praise those gendarmes who stand out day and night in the heat of summer and the severe cold of winter to control traffic and guard installations. But what we strongly reject is police discrimination against citizens on Egyptian soil.

On Monday before last, Major General Zaki Badr, the interior minister, stood before the People's Assembly National Security Committee. He menaced the opposition parties and threatened action against them as if they were, in the interior minister's view, a group violating the law and, therefore, deserving to be hounded. This comes at a time when Maj Gen Zaki Badr knows that the opposition parties are working openly for Egypt's interests, that they have no secret cells, and that, unlike the ruling party, they do not suck the citizens' blood. The patriotic NDP is full of bloodsuckers, smugglers, and tax evaders. He is the first to know the contents of these people's files; he is also familiar with the opposition parties' files which he, one day, threatened to divulge despite the fact that the major general himself, like others, has a file of his own. In fact, there are many files on NDP members whose corruption has spread.

The amazing thing is that the esteemed major general, in his speech, denounced the opposition parties for making efforts to admit Islamic groups to their ranks and he warned against this attitude. We, in the Liberal Party, like others, want to admit the

Islamic groups and the Muslim Brotherhood to our ranks. In fact, we are working hard on this to restore stability and security, channel the energies of our young people, and enable them to express their views within a legitimate framework.

So, when Islamic groups join one of the parties, there will be no need for them to resort to acts considered by the esteemed major general as extremist. Consequently, the party would be responsible for their attitudes unless the interior minister considers going to mosques, wearing long robes, or growing beards to be extremist acts. If he is refusing to hold a dialogue with these groups because they, in his view, are violating the law, the party they join will promote dialogue with them through its committees, meetings, and partisan work. Consequently, they will work for their homeland, Egypt. I do not think that he would find any benefit in detaining, hounding, imprisoning, and tailing them inside and outside universities.

Mr Major General, suppression generates explosion. So, there is no need at all for your threats to invoke the emergency law and other laws of ill repute since they are already in existence and they have not been abolished. All the good laws of the world will not be able to protect oppression or tyranny nor will they enable you personally to sleep in peace; let us recall recent and remote history. So, Mr Major General, you have to thank the opposition, not threaten it.

Mubarak Decision To Dissolve Parliament Viewed

JN102106 Cairo UKTUBAR in Arabic 8 Feb 87 p 3

[Article by Editor in Chief Salah Muntasir in "The Way the Wind Blows" column entitled: "Why Was the People's Assembly Dissolved? And Why in This Month in Particular? If the People Agree, Elections for the New Assembly Will Be Held on 9 April"]

[Text] The surprise created by President Husni Mubarak's call for a referundum on dissolving the People's Assembly on Thursday, 12 February, notwithstanding, the following observations can be noted:

1. The decision was not a surprise for the minority who are in the political know. However, the decision was shrouded in great secrecy.

2. The idea to dissolve the Assembly was discussed before Kamal al-Shadhili, organization secretary of the National Democratic Party, put forward his proposal on amending the electroal law — a proposal first put to the Consultative Assembly and approved by the People's Assembly 5 weeks ago.

3. Amendments introduced to the electoral law were aimed to revise the mistakes made in the practice of democracy since the last elections for the People's Assembly on 4 May 1984 and to achieve the following:

Retaining the idea of straight ticket elections which in the past have helped to bring about the election of figures who do not contest elections or fight election campaigns, while simultaneously bowing to the desire of some people to continue to have independent candidates, a system to which the people have been accustomed for the past 60 years;

Achieving a balance between the multiparty system on which Egypt's political structure is founded and the desire of those who want to serve their country by fighting elections and entering the People's Assembly on an independent basis without being attached to any party;

Achieving equality between men and women by revoking a privilege granted to women at a time when attempts to encourage women to find their own way required granting them such a privilege and rescinding the privilege now that women's position and ability to compete with men in various fields have been established and there is no need to grant them a special privilege by allocating them a number of seats in the People's Assembly. The amendment recently introduced in the electoral law has canceled the privilege.

4. Following the People's Assembly's approval of the amendments, a clear contradiction has arisen between an Assembly elected on the basis of an old law and an amended law which tackles the mistakes in the practice of democracy. That was not the view of President Husni Mubarak alone, who is always anxious to preserve sound democratic practice, but it was also the view of a significant number of citizens who frankly wrote to President Mubarak asking that the situation be redressed and the Assembly dissolved.

5. Members of political parties also were aware of such a view. They discussed it in the lobbies of the People's Assembly. Some of them had secret apprehensions about dissolving the Assembly as they had safe seats.

6. Although President Husni Mubarak and his aides had decided that the dissolution of the People's Assembly should be put to the people in a referendum, particularly after the amendment of the electoral law, the date of holding such a referendum was the subject of discussion.

7. According to the Constitution, if the result of the referendum on dissolving the People's Assembly is positive, then elections for a new People's Assembly must be held within 60 days of the referendum. A glance at the future reveals Ramadan begins on 29 April and therefore holding elections during May will be impossible. Postponement of elections until after Ramadan will make the candidates preoccupied with election campaigns throughout Ramadan and that will be exhausting for them. That meant elections would have to be held before Ramadan, prior to 29 April.

8. In view of the fact the custom has been to hold referendums on Thursdays, it was determined that Thursday 12 February was the most appropriate for the referendum. Holding the referendum on 12 February will make it possible to hold elections for the new People's Assembly — provided the people vote for the dissolution of the present Assembly — on Thursday, 9 April, and runoff elections on Thursday, 16 April.

9. In light of the amendments introduced to the electoral law, the new elections will be held on the basis of dividing the Republic

into 48 constituencies, 5 of which are in Cairo and 3 in Alexandria. Candidates will stand for these constituencies either on a straight ticket or independently.

10. The number of members in the People's Assembly are 448, of whom at least 400 win on a straight ticket and a maximum of 48 win by running independently. The new electoral law specifies that 50 percent of the Assembly seats allocated to independent candidates are exempt from such a stipulation.

Production Committee Meets, Approves Projects

NC101645 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The Ministerial Committee on Production met today under Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation. The committee approved an agreement between Egypt and an international company to explore for and exploit oil located in 600 square km in Umm Barakah, in the western desert. The company has committed 30 million pounds for the period of exploration. This was stated by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif.

Al-Sharif added that the committee also approved a draft bill to add 200 square km to the area being explored for oil south of Al-Razzaq, in the western desert.

The committee approved the allocation of 8 billion Japanese yen to finance the Abu Za'bal high-voltage power transformer plant, and DM1 million to finance renovation and replacement efforts at the northern Cairo and Badr power distribution plants.

The committee also approved urgent plans to purchase hardware for the Red Crescent Hospital, which will open in January 1988.

On another matter, the committee agreed that the general organization for agricultural reconstruction and development would spend 3 million pounds on the irrigation, drainage, and electricity projects undertaken by the Northern Al-Tahrir Company, with the aim of boosting the production of agricultural crops, vegetables, fruits, and fodder.

The information minister said that the committee on production agreed that the fund for subsidizing agricultural products would spend 3.9 million pounds on incentives for farmers growing high-productivity corn hybrids, with the aim of meeting the minimum area requirements set as a target for this production. The farmers will deliver surplus corn to agricultural development and credit bank branches in their governorates.

Tariq 'Aziz Leaves for Paris on 'Working Visit'

JN101721 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Feb (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Baghdad for Paris this evening on a short working visit to France. During the visit, Tariq 'Aziz will hold talks with French officials on issues concerning both countries and matters of common interest.

Further Communiques, Reports on Fighting

Communique No 2,563

JN101730 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Communique No 2,563 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 10 February 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Iraq's victorious forces have continued their heroic confrontation of the Khomeyniite aggressors, directing devastating blows and imposing full control over all sectors of operation. Following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. Our heroic artillery and infantry men directed concentrated fire at the enemy scoundrels before our formations in the III Army Corps sector. They destroyed enemy weapons and equipment, destroyed their positions over their heads, and sent the charlatan's scoundrels to hell.

2. The brave helicopter knights played an effective and daring role in destroying the aggressors. Today our knights carried out 162 combat sorties, destroying enemy assembly points, equipment, vehicles, and positions. Our knights then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. To inflict further losses on the Khomeyniite scoundrels, the VII Army Corps heroes continued their painful strikes at the enemy, achieving the following:

The killing of 152 enemy personnel and the wounding of others; the destruction of 6 mortar emplacements and the killing of all crews; the destruction of 19 infantry positions and the killing and wounding of their occupants; the destruction of 1 tank, a 106-mm gun, 5 machinegun enplacements, 3 vehicles, 3 shovels [preceding word in English], and 2 observation posts; and the burning of 3 ammunition dumps.

4. The criminal enemy shelled residential areas in Basra and its environs with long-range artillery. As a result, five civilians, including two children, were wounded. Swift recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 February 1987

Tehran, Qom Bombed

JN111441 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1336 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Communique No 2,564 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 11 February 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In exercising our legitimate right to defend our territory, our people's security and possessions and so that the Khomeyniites, the evildoers and criminals, will stop their aggressions against our international border and the shelling of our cities and so that they will accept the logic of truth and peace, our gigantic Air Force today carried out the following heroic actions:

1. At 1000 [0700 GMT] today, scores of our aircraft flew toward the dens of the charlatans, topped by their big charlatan, the Zionist agent and senile Khomeyni, to pound these dens in their capital, Tehran, challenging the Zionist agents once again and levying on them the tax of their aggression against lofty Iraq. The tax will always remain high, God willing and with the determination of men. Our aircraft violently pounded their targets in the Iranian capital, setting them on fire and leaving columns of smoke billowing from them.

2. To further challenge the clique of evil, at 1300 today our aircraft launched a second blow at their capital, Tehran, affirming that Iraq's arm can reach any target. This clique will always remain dwarfs in their confrontation of the people, who constitute the leading element in the march of freedom and progress.

3. At 0945 today, a number of our planes pounded their targets in the city of Qom.

4. At 1030 today, our aircraft raided the city Kuhdasht, dealing it a destructive blow.

5. At 1038 today, our aircraft pounced their targets in the city of Rezaiyye [Orumiyeh] and its fuel reservoirs, setting them on fire.

6. Challenging the enemy's air defenses, at 0800 today our aircraft attacked a surface-to-air HAWK battery which Zionism supplied the Tehran rulers in the Karun River area.

7. At 1051 today, our aircraft raided the city of Tabriz and hit their targets there.

8. At 1133 today, our aircraft launched a devastating raid on the city of Nahavand.

9. At 1154 today, our aircraft attacked the Moshk camp, killing many Khomeyniite scoundrels and destroying its facilities and warehouses.

10. At 1156 today, our aircraft dealt devastating blows to the facilities and ammunition and weapons depots in the Marivan camp.

11. At the same time, our aircraft launched a violent raid on the Khomeyniite scoundrels in the camp of Robat and demolished the camp facilities and depots.

12. At 1230 today, our aircraft dealt a blow devastating to the city of Borujerd.

13. At the same time, our aircraft pounded their targets in the city of Shushtar and the Khomeyni Guard concentrations there.

14. At 1258 today, our aircraft flew to their new target in the far north of Iran, the city of Qazvin, and destroyed their targets there.

15. At 1348 today, scores of our planes dealt a violent new blow to the city of Esfahan.

All our planes then returned safely to their bases, praise be to God.

Let the despotic Iranian rulers know that in the end a decisive victory of truth will be achieved over falsehood. Great Iraq will triumph over the Khomeyniite jugglers. We advise them to stop their evil because their aggressive acts will only bring them and their regime more tragedies and catastrophes. O free and genuine Air Force men — commanders, hawks, officers, and soldiers — this is the way of those who are seeking loftiness. The hammers of truth will remain over their heads. This is the prize for unjust people. Peace be upon our Air Force which deserves the love of the people and their leader. Our success comes from God, and he is our supporter.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 February 1987

Aerial Superiority Asserted

JN101729 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The commander of the Air Force and Air Defense has affirmed that our Air Force's ability to reach any target deep inside Iran at any time proves the great potential ability of our Air Force, the comprehensive and technical development in our Air Force, and the high efficiency of our heroic hawks. In a statement to *Alif Ba'* magazine to be published tomorrow, the Air Force commander added that the comprehensive and technical development in our Air Force, thanks to the continuous concern of our wise leadership under leader President Saddam Husayn, will witness progress in all fields.

The Iraqi commander said: The strategic and tactical value of our Air Force operations on the battlefronts and inside Iran is a new assertion that the scale is tipping in favor of our brave Armed Forces and that the decision in terms of defense and offense is in their hands regardless of the duration of war.

He noted that our aerial superiority will not be affected by the piecemeal support the Iranian enemy receives from its Zionist allies. The truth of this will be affirmed by the results of our Air Force activities against any target we select.

On the role of our heroic Air Force in the Great Day and Great Harvest battles, the Iraqi commander said that our Air Force effectively supported our ground forces to foil the Iranian enemy's encroachment on our chaste territory.

Commander on 'Impregnable' Front

JN111057 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Feb (INA) — VII Army Corps Commander Staff Lieutenant General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid has said that the VII Army Corps' front is very strong and impregnable. He added: We are lying in wait for the Iranian forces, and we are continously prepared.

In a statement published by the military newspaper *Al-Qadisiyah* today, the VII Army Corps commander confirmed the destruction of the Iranian war machine and its impotence to confront the Iraqi forces.

He said: We support the III Army Corps by rivers of missile, artillery, mortar, tank, machinegun, anti-tank, and even individual weapons fire. He stressed that the Iranian forces have received an unprecedented destructive blow. He said that the best proof of this is the Iranian officials' encouragement of minors to join in the battles.

The VII Army Corps commander described Iranian allegations of controlling areas of the III Army Corps' territory as ridiculous and meant to justify their losses of hundreds of thousands. He said: the Iranian forces' foothold is not more than two and a half km away from our international border on the right flank of the III Army Corps.

Further Reports on Hostage Negotiations

Group Submits List of 400

TA101455 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1448 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The kidnappers of the three Americans and the Indian in Beirut have prepared a detailed list of the 400 terrorists whose release they demand in exchange for the release of the hostages. REUTERS reports that of the 400, 310 are Lebanese and 90 are Palestinians, among them the three terrorists who were convicted several days ago of carrying out the attack at the Western Wall against the Giv'ati Brigade soldiers. The list was transferred to the International Red Cross by the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine organization, which is holding the hostages.

The Lebanese prisoners whose release the organization is demanding are mostly Shi'ites. Some of them are being held in the 'Atlit detention center and others by the South Lebanese Army in the Al-Khiyam prison in southern Lebanon.

Birri Repeats Swap Offer

NC102205 Paris AFP in English 2159 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Beirut, Feb 10 (AFP) — Intensive talks involving Syria are under way to seek the release of Western hostages in Lebanon and Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners in Israel, according to Shi'ite sources in Beirut involved in the hostage situation. They said that the contacts had continued for the past 48 hours.

The Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine (IJLP), which has threatened to kill three American and one Indian hostages seized on January 24, is demanding that Israel set free 400 Palestinians prisoners. The leader of the Shi'ite Amal Movement in Lebanon, Nabih Birri, speaking in the Syrian capital Damascus Tuesday, repeated an earlier call for a three-cornered swap of prisoners, involving the hostages, the Palestinian detainees and an Israeli pilot held by the Amal.

But he said the Palestinians should give him a list of those they wanted to be released by Israel. "Amal is ready, once it has received the list, to ask for their freedom for that of the Israeli pilot" and the four hostages held by the IJLP. "We look forward to a positive response from the IJLP and our Palestinian brothers", Mr Birri said.

Shi'ite sources said that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had yet to receive a list of Palestinian prisoners whose release was being sought. However there was a list of 300 names, many of them of Lebanese held either in Israel or by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA). The sources also ruled out any immediate danger of the hostages being killed by their captors. The IJLP had first threatened to execute the four at midnight local time Monday, but later said they were deferring the threat.

U.S. Warned on 'Foolish Action'

NC110520 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] The Revolutionary Justice Organization has warned the United States against undertaking any foolish action, together with its Israeli, Western, and Lebanese allies, to secure the release of the hostages. In a statement written in Arabic, the organization notes that a U.S. plan had envisaged the landing of U.S. commando units on the Al-Ramlah al-Bayda' shore [in West Beirut] under heavy artillery cover. At the same time, U.S. helicopters were to strafe the main headquarters of Hizballah in Al-Bastah. Israeli planes were to attack Hizballah positions in Beirut and Al-Biqa'.

The U.S. plan also envisaged the creation of disruptions along the contact lines [between West and East Beirut] and the provocation of clashes between the Amal Movement, Hizballah, and the PSP in West Beirut with the intention of creating confusion.

Junblatt on U.S. Hostages

NC101525 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] In an interview with a BBC correspondent in Damascus, Minister Walid Junblatt expressed extreme concern about the fate of the four [as heard] U.S. hostages. He added that killing these hostages would bring further destruction and ruin to Lebanon and give the Americans and Israelis the necessary pretext to strike at Beirut. Minister Junblatt noted that the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine would not be serving the Palestinian cause by executing the hostages.

Asked whether Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite would be released soon, Minister Junblatt said he has no knowledge of the information revealed by Minister Nabih Birri. He added, however, that there is no good news in sight. Minister Junblatt affirmed that the Syrian Government has made great efforts in the past and is still making them for the sake of bringing about the release of all the hostages in Lebanon. He accused certain parties in Lebanon of disregarding Syria's endeavors.

Group Denounces Kidnapping

JN111116 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 11 Feb 87 pp 22, 19

[Text] *Al-Dustur* has received a message by mail from Lebanon carrying the signature of the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [Al-Jabhah al-Islamiyah li tahrir Filastin]. The message comments on the kidnappings which took place in Lebanon and which were claimed by an organization calling itself the "Islamic Jihad Organization for the Liberation of Palestine". [Munazzamat al-Jihad al-Islami li tahrir Filastin]

In this message, the front said that proceeding from a true Islamic course, it denounces and condemns all these immoral, inhuman, and non-Islamic actions, and it denounces all terrorist, criminal acts. It added it supports holy jihad [holy-war] and

honest and sincere armed struggle, which has nothing to do with acts of terrorism or attacking innocent people regardless of their beliefs or political and ideological affiliation and regardless of the stands and policies of their government and countries.

It added that in the Palestinian, Islamic, and Arab arenas, there is no Islamic organization other than the "Islamic Front for the Liberation of Palestine" whose actions are based on holy jihad. It has been in operation, particularly in the occupied homeland, for several years, where it has carried out several heroic military operations, including the Dung Gate operation in Jerusalem on 15 October 1986.

The message said the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Palestine is an independent Islamic Palestinian organization working to uphold the word of God, to liberate the whole of Palestine in accordance with Arab and Islamic principles, and to apply God's laws there, providing that holy Jerusalem is its capital. It added that levelling accusations against an Islamic, Palestinian group for the kidnappings that took place in Lebanon recently, is aimed at undermining our Palestinian revolution's jihad and struggle, and calling for the release of 400 Arab and Palestinian detainees from Zionist prisons is only a clear and exposed cover to distort the image of our Palestinian people's march of liberation and jihad.

Further Reportage on Efforts To End Camps War

Amal To Allow Supplies

NC101832 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The Amal Movement declared this evening that provisions and medicines will be sent to the Burj al-Barajinah camp tomorrow. This step will be followed by the evacuation of a number of wounded. The movement affirmed that this measure has been prompted by Amal's concern for the humanitarian and social needs of the camp's inhabitants.

Entry of Food Postponed

NC111148 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1115 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Statement issued by the Fifth Section of the Amal Movement's Central Military Bureau in Beirut on 11 February]

[Text] The entry of food supplies into Burj al-Barajinah camp has been postponed until tomorrow, pending the completion of measures on the ground and contacts and consultations with the parties concerned.

Furthermore, information has been received from the south that no withdrawal [from Maghdushah] has taken place yet and the Amal Movement has not been able to take over the positions agreed upon in Damascus. This matter is being discussed with the brothers in the Popular Nasirite Organization and other political and religious leaders in Sidon.

It has been observed that the pro-'Arafat group is trying to obstruct the solutions proposed for Maghdushah and the area east of Sidon, after receiving 'Arafat's instructions to this effect this morning.

PLO Statement on Siege

JN101749 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Undated PLO military statement]

[Text] The Amal Movement agent gangs, the [Lebanese Army's] 1st and 6th Brigades, and the special forces of an Arab country continued their artillery shelling and sniper fire against the Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila camps from the early hours of this morning until this statement was issued. While the comprehensive siege of the camps in Beirut continues, angry demonstrators staged a protest in the Mar Elias camp yesterday morning in which they carried bread, water, food, and medicines to the mufti's office to guarantee their handover to the children, old men, and women of the camps who are threatened with starvation and the spread of epidemic diseases.

Despite the Amal gangs' attempts and encroachments to prevent popular demonstrations, the masses of our people yesterday held the funeral of the three martyrs assassinated by Amal gangs. The martyrs were killed while attempting to break the siege imposed on the Burj al-Barajinah by driving a vehicle carrying food into the besieged camp.

Glory to the heroic martyrs. Revolution until victory.

Cease-Fire Agreement Reached

NC110708 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Following expanded meetings in Damascus, Minister Nabih Birri last night contacted his office in Beirut and informed the Amal Movement leaders that an agreement has been reached for a comprehensive cease-fire to go into effect at 0800 today. There will be a simultaneous withdrawal by the Palestinians from East Sidon and resumption by Amal Movement fighters of their positions. Supplies will be taken into Burj al-Barajinah camp at 0900 today.

Group Claims Rocket Attack on Government House

NC101244 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The Government House building was the target of a rocket at 1350 today. The shell hit part of the Faculty of Law.

The Revolutionary Vengeance Organization has claimed responsibility for the operation. A spokesman for the organization telephoned the Voice of Lebanon, calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The caller threatened that such operations will be escalated until West Beirut is liberated.

Karami Comments on Attacks

NC110532 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] An Energa rocket was fired last night at a building adjacent to Prime Minister Rashid Karami's residence, causing material damage. A few hours earlier, a hand grenade was thrown at Government House, also causing material damage.

Commenting on these incidents, Prime Minister Karami said: I do not pay attention to such despicable actions, and I pray God to guide everyone. This country has suffered a great deal from mercenary acts like these, which only serve our enemies.

The Northern Coordination Committee will hold a meeting in Prime Minister Karami's office in Tripoli this afternoon to discuss the two attacks.

Amal Target of Attack, Blamed for Car Bombing

NC101824 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Excerpts] An explosive charge went off near an Amal Movement barracks in the area of Qasqas [in West Beirut] at 1530 today, causing material damage and leaving one Amal member dead and two others wounded. The device carried 10 kg of explosives. [passage omitted]

A spokesman for Beirut Rebellious Forces telephoned our radio this evening and claimed his organization's responsibility for launching two LAW projectiles at an Amal Movement assembly point near the Kuwaiti Embassy area at 1825. Two persons were wounded as a result.

In another development, Radio Free Lebanon has learned that the Beirut branch of the Amal Movement Security Department is responsible for the booby-trapped car that exploded in the Al-Ruways area, which is controlled by Hizballah. The explosion left 16 dead and approximately 60 others wounded.

Gunmen Fire at SSNP Centers; Explosion on Campus

NC110904 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0845 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Gunmen in a white BMW without plates opened fire in the direction of two centers belonging to the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] in the Holiday Inn area of 'Ayn al-Muraysah [in West Beirut] at approximately 1000 today. Two party members were wounded as a result. A state of tension currently prevails in the wake of this incident, and personnel have been placed on alert.

An explosive device went off on the campus of Beirut University College at 0100 today. One of the university's guards was wounded by the blast.

Shams al-Din on Christians Right to Exit Route

NC101829 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, has asserted that Christians have the right to establish an exit route, as we ourselves find it difficult to use Beirut International Airport.

In an interview to be published in *Al-Sayyad* magazine tomorrow, Shaykh Shams al-Din said the settlement that would emerge from the expected Lebanese-Syrian summit would have a positive effect on the crisis facing society. He pointed out that any talk about Islamic republic or a Christian homeland is bound to destroy the integrity of Lebanon as a single political entity.

Shaykh Shams al-Din also demanded that the hostages' safety be preserved and their release secured.

Khaldah Port Management Denies Political Role

NC101328 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The Port of Khaldah Administration has issued the following statement:

Some media have reported that the *Maria R* ship, which was intercepted by Israel, was heading for the port of Khaldah with a number of Palestinians aboard. The administration would like to explain the following to the public, in light of the escalating campaign of fabrications against this port, the administration of which has preferred not to comment until now, since the sources and objectives of this campaign are known to all.

The issue of the aforementioned ship falls within these campaigns, whose objectives are well known. The port of Khaldah is a commercial port that deals in freight with regular navigational lines and it has nothing to do with any political issues. The administration, with the help of the security departments in charge of the strict security procedures practiced at the port, is intent on keeping this vital port free of any political issues that are incompatible with the port's policy.

Further Reportage on King Husayn's Visit

Holds Talks With Al-Asad

JN101530 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Damascus, 10 Feb (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn held talks with President Hafiz al-Asad at Tishrin Palace following his majesty's arrival in Damascus this afternoon. The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim; Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri; and Jordanian Ambassador in Damascus 'Ali Khurays. On the Syrian side the meeting was attended by Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'; Wahib Fadil, minister of state for presidential affairs; and Syrian Ambassador in Amman Majid Abu Salih.

'Closed' Meeting Held

JN101825 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad held a closed meeting at the presidential palace this evening during which the two leaders reviewed developments in the region and in the Arab and international arenas as well as relations between the two fraternal countries.

Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i held a meeting with Syrian Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm at the Council of Ministers building this evening. They reviewed relations between the two fraternal countries and the promotion of these relations in all fields.

Talks Continue 11 Feb

JN111230 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] At 1130 today, President Hafiz al-Asad and His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan resumed their talks which they began in a closed meeting at the presidential palace yesterday. The talks dealt with the overall situation and developments in the region and bilateral relations.

Khaddam Meets Jordan's Al-Rifa'i

JN111238 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Damascus — Jordanian-Syrian talks resumed in Damascus today. His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad held a meeting at the presidential palace. The two leaders yesterday reviewed the situation in the region in light of Arab and international developments.

Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i also met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam today. They discussed ways of promoting bilateral relations.

Press on U.S. Military Buildup, Aid to Egypt

JN081348 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Brothers: Under the headline "The Policy of Warships ...Until When?" the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* says: From time to time, the U.S. Administration moves its naval fleets toward our Arab coasts and asks its allies to follow suit. However, Washington's allies this time refused to respond to U.S. expectations. Certainly, the West Europeans have their justifications and personal reasons for rejecting the aggressive U.S. inclination because the Europeans discovered that responding to the U.S. approach would mean again becoming involved in an issue far removed from their present and future interests in our Arab homeland. The U.S. officials say the objective of their concentrations is to liberate the hostages held in Lebanon. However, this is merely a feeble justification by the U.S. Administration for carrying out military action to effect the change long cherished by Washington and Tel Aviv of advancing the Camp David accords. The proof the new U.S. concentrations are not for the hostages but for other objectives is the break in silence by the Zionist enemy with the announcement it is ready to take part with the U.S. forces in any military action. This is indisputable evidence that there are premeditated intentions for aggression. Events have proved the national Arab forces headed by Syria were not and will not be intimidated by the policy of threats to use force regardless of the volume of military concentrations. On the contrary, Washington's aggressive conduct toward our Arab homeland prompts the national Arab forces to adhere to and entrench their stands through working to establish a wide Arab front to confront the continuous imperialist-Zionist plots against our Arab nation. [passage omitted]

Under the headline "Shamir's Confidence...From Where?" *Tishrin* says: Israeli enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said Egypt respects the Camp David accords because its economy depends on U.S. aid. These words need no comment because they obviously refer to the reality of the U.S.-Israeli game in the Middle East and to the traps currently being set in the region to hunt new Arab countries or regimes to complete the links of Camp David. Hence, the United States uses what it calls aid to Egypt to drag the regime there into further concessions for the Israeli enemy and to play its role fully in transmitting Camp David to the Arab Nation. In other words, by holding the reins of economic initiative in Egypt after the Al-Sadatist open-door policy, the United States seeks to link Egypt to the imperialist wheel and to render any future regime in Egypt unable to abandon the commitments made by Al-Sadat to the United States and Israel. We are completely confident our people in Egypt will only opt for the path of Arabism, the path of pride and dignity. At that time, Shamir's confidence will vanish, clouds scatter, facts become clear, and Egypt will return to its nation through a wide open door to reoccupy its prominent position.

Shamir Interviewed on U.S. Visit, Hostages
TA101531 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Ilana Dayan on the "News Evening" news program — live in the studio]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Dayan] Sir, next week you will visit an American capital that wants to interrogate the Israeli heroes of the Iran affair; that perhaps wants to lift the immunity of Jonathan Pollard's contacts; that wants Israel to impose economic sanctions on South Africa; and that wants to find alternatives to the Lavi. It appears it would have been difficult to find a worse time for this visit.

[Shamir] Well, there are problems in our relations with the United States. It is not surprising, because we are so close and the cooperation is so tight and broad. There are various issues which have to be ironed out. By the way, in all the things you named there are actually no differences of opinion between us and the administration.

[Dayan] Then with your permission let us examine each of them separately: First, the threat to the lives of the American hostages in Lebanon. You probably heard with us a few minutes ago the news flash that the Islamic Jihad organization has conveyed a list to the Red Cross of the names of 400 Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners they want us to return. What is your reaction to this?

[Shamir] In this issue we certainly have no differences of opinion with the U.S. Government. Also, we have not received any appeal from the United States. Regarding the issue itself, in such serious issues we do not rely upon media reports. We have to relate only to direct appeals, and so far we have not received any appeal.

[Dayan] Sir, you will appear before the important media bodies in the United States. I assume some American interviewer will ask you this: What gives Israel the moral right to refuse to discuss any possibility of negotiating with Nabih Birri about a deal in which we will free 400 prisoners and they will free our navigator and the American hostages. How can we refuse this on moral grounds after we released 1,150 terrorists in exchange for 3 of our prisoners?

[Shamir] Well, our normal position is we should not negotiate with terrorists, because this encourages them to continue with their murders and kidnappings. However, where human lives are concerned there are sometimes exceptions to the rule, and the case you mention is an exception — in that case it was not just a kidnapping case. It was a case were our soldiers were taken prisoner, and this is a different case. These rules of negotiations should be examined in each case separately.

[Dayan] You do not rule out the possibility of negotiations with the Amal leader for the release of our navigator within the framework of such a deal?

[Shamir] I said nothing about this. However, I did say we have still received no real appeal in this issue.

[Dayan] And if we receive one?

[Shamir] Then we will check; we will think about it.

[Dayan] Mr Shamir, let us turn to the next issue that will probably occupy you during your visit to the United States: the Iran affair. Israel has agreed Nir, Nimrodi, Schwimmer, and Kimche will answer written interrogatories. In the last few days you personally questioned 'Amiram Nir and Ya'aqov Nimrodi. Can you tell President Reagan we did not initiate and encourage the deal?

[Shamir] I must tell you that you are inaccurate on this issue. I have not agreed for the American authorities to examine and interrogate our people. Not in person, and not in writing. We did agree we would cooperate in the examination of the entire affair on a government-to-government basis. We asked them to send us — the government — written questions, and we will answer them in writing. If they want any oral clarifications these will be made with a government representative. This means Israeli and U.S. representatives will talk and write about this issue. This is how the cooperation on this issue will be conducted.

[Dayan] Mr Shamir, what will you say regarding the issue of an international conference while in the United States?

[Shamir] My position is known with regard to an international conference. I am against it and I do not believe such a conference, which would be called an international conference for peace in the Middle East, would be a peace conference. I do not believe it would serve the interests of peace. I believe there is a danger it would only worsen relations between us and our neighbors. It would put us in a trap from which we would have a difficult time escaping. Our proposal, what we are offering to all the world — to our neighbors and to the United States — is direct peace negotiations between us and our neighbors. We do not need the help of the entire world community, whose representatives will assume the right for themselves to decide about our future and fate.

[Dayan] The Americans will listen to your position. They have already heard Shim'on Peres say Israel favors an international peace conference. Will the U.S. Administration be able to discern Israel's true position on an international conference?

[Shamir] First, the U.S. Administration has its own position. It, mainly the secretary of state who is the primary U.S. spokesman on political matters, is against such a conference and does not believe it can bear any fruit. This has been their position for several years now. They know, however, there are differences of opinion in Israel regarding this issue. This is not such a rare thing, especially because we have a national unity government comprising representatives of parties that have differences of opinion. I do not regard it as a disaster.

[Dayan] I want to touch upon several more points before we end the interview. The first is the Soviet Jewish emigration policy. First, do you believe there is a change in their policy? President Herzog expressed this opinion today. Do you also believe there are chances to open the gates in the near future?

[Shamir] I have not seen any changes so far. There are rumors; there are signs; there are hints. However, I believe we should be wary about stating the Soviet Union has truly changed its policy before we actually see hundreds of thousands of Jews leaving the Soviet Union.

[Dayan] Nevertheless, you will tell the Americans next week to stop regarding these Jews as political refugees, because they have a home to go to?

[Shamir] Certainly. This has always been my position. I believe the Jews leaving the Soviet Union on the basis of Israeli visas have a homeland; they have a place to go to; they have a home here; and therefore they cannot be regarded as homeless, people without a homeland. When they come here they will be permitted, if they so desire, to go wherever they want. However, they first of all have to come to Israel on the basis of their visas.

[Dayan] Finally, Mr Prime Minister, can I ask you a personal question?

[Shamir] Please do.

[Dayan] During your current terms as prime minister there is a striking difference in your openness to the media, in your willingness to cooperate in media gimmicks. We have seen you wearing a pilot's flightsuit with a pilot's helmet, and kissing small children and receiving flowers from them. Is it worth the embarrassment?

[Shamir] First, I have always loved to kiss beautiful, nice little children, and this is not in pursuit of any particular purpose. Second, one learns from experience.

[Dayan] Lastly, we were informed yesterday about the appointment of the first Arab consul in the Israeli foreign service, Muhammad Masrawah. Would you have made such an appointment as foreign minister?

[Shamir] Why not? I am not against Israeli Arab citizens serving in any post, including a diplomatic post. In the past there were such cases. We only have to check the abilities of every person and whether he is the right man for the job.

'Surprised' by Bush-Nir Talks

TA101246 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 10 Feb 87 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir and REUTER]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir did not know about the extent of 'Amiram Nir's involvement in the Iranian affair. Sources at the Prime Minister's Office said yesterday the disclosures in *The Washington Post* about the Bush-Nir talks surprised the prime minister. Shamir had not given prior approval for Nir's contacts with Iranian extremists.

Senior sources in Jerusalem yesterday expressed their doubts whether Peres and Rabin, who were directly responsible for Nir's activity, had known about the promises he made to Iranian personages and to the mediator, Ghorbanifar, on Israel's behalf.

Nir disclosed his activity in the Iranian affair began in November 1985, and he was the man who had planned to get rid of the team responsible for the first part of the operation, which was directed by Kimche, Nimrodi, and Schwimmer. According to assessments in Israel, Nir acted behind the back of these three, incited against them, and undermined their status by disseminating false rumors about their failures. Jerusalem believes Nir will have to give up his duties [as the prime minister's antiterrorism adviser] at once. The U.S. inquiry commissions looking into the Iranian affair want to interrogate Nir personally, although they are settling for written replies from Kimche, Nimrodi, and Schwimmer. [passage omitted]

Further Coverage of Mideast Hostage Situation

Lubrani Views Exchange

TA101508 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, says he does not know about any agreement to free the American hostages in exchange for terrorists.

Contacts on Release Confirmed

TA110559 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Feb 87 p 1

["Exclusive" report by U.S. correspondent Amnon Dankner and news agencies]

[Excerpts] Washington — U.S. and Israeli circles confirmed in Washington last night contacts are being held between the United States and Israel, Middle East countries, and the organizations in Lebanon holding the hostages, in an attempt to bring the U.S. hostage affair in Lebanon to an end.

The sources said also being discussed within this framework is the release of the three members of the Jewish community in Beirut who were kidnapped several months ago. [passage omitted]

It has been learned that included in the contacts currently being held are the U.S., Israeli, Syrian, and Swiss Governments; the IRC; Amal, headed by Nabih Birri; and organizations responsible for the kidnappings. The proposal on the agenda is to release all the hostages being held by pro-Iranian, pro-Syrian, and Palestinian organizations; the three members of the Jewish community in Beirut; and the Israeli navigator in exchange for the release of the 400 detainees being held by Israel. This proposal was raised by Nabih Birri, who is in contact with the presidential palace in Damascus and the U.S. ambassador there.

Peres Prepared for 'Concessions'

TA110637 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Feb 87 p 1

[Report by Yosef Michalsky]

[Excerpts] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said in Haifa yesterday the issue of the Israeli navigator being held hostage in

Lebanon should not be linked to the problem of the hostages being held by Hizballah. "Amal leader Nabih Birri is not responsible for the navigator, and Birri has no standing with Hizballah, which is a separate body," Peres said. [passage omitted]

The vice prime minister said Birri's remarks on the hostage affair were apparently a "trial balloon," and it is almost certain that Birri does not know where the other hostages are being held. "Israel does not usually give in to terrorists' demands; however, if a reasonable proposal is raised, we will be prepared to make concessions to ensure the return of the navigator. We will not rest until he returns home," Peres said. He added there is no need to panic over threats by the kidnappers to execute the hostages. "There is a certain amount of dynamics in situations such as these, and we must use a quiet and level-headed approach. The fact is the terrorists did postpone the execution date."

Reports on Debate Over Stance on Peace Conference

Shamir Opposition Noted

TA101949 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Responding to an interpellation in the Knesset, Prime Minister Shamir said this evening Mr Peres must make it clear to foreign statesmen that in speaking in favor of an international conference he is not representing Israel's position. Mr Shamir believes if such a position is presented to the cabinet, the proposal would be rejected, or the government will have to be dissolved.

The Alignment has accused Prime Minister Shamir of trying to break the national unity government by making his statement opposing an international conference to the Knesset this evening. Senior Alignment ministers have told our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami that 18 months ago, Mr Shamir gave his personal consent to the idea of an international conference and the entire Likud faction supported it in the Knesset. The Alignment ministers will debate Mr Shamir's remarks tomorrow morning.

Shultz: U.S. Supports Forum

TA110523 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] The United States now reportedly supports an international peace conference on the Middle East. In a telegram to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz told Shamir that Washington now feels that there is a need for an international peace conference in order to bring Jordan into the peace process. Reporter Dick Winter adds that the United States has until now opposed the idea of such a peace conference, since it was advanced by Shim'on Peres when he was prime minister. Likud leaders have consistently used the U.S. opposition to the peace conference in their dispute with Labor over the issue. Shultz also wrote to the prime minister that during Shamir's visit to the United States next week, the two governments will discuss the improvement of quality of life in the territories and strategic cooperation between Jerusalem and Washington.

PM's Office Reacts

TA110545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] We have a reaction from the Prime Minister's Office regarding Secretary of State Shultz' letter to Prime Minister Shamir on the international conference. The reaction says the secretary of state claims it is necessary to examine every possible way of reaching direct negotiations, including the possibility of convening an international conference for the purpose of reaching direct negotiations, because Jordan is insisting on this. This is the reaction of the Prime Minister's Office.

Alignment Attacks Shamir

TA110755 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0730 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] The Alignment ministers this morning sharply attacked Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, saying that in his remarks yesterday concerning the international conference Shamir took another step toward the dissolution of the national unity government, because he acted against its policy and unity.

In a statement published following this morning's meeting, the Alignment ministers say contrary to the normal procedure followed by the national unity government, Shamir made his remarks in the Knesset yesterday without prior coordination with Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. The Alignment ministers state the government never decided to oppose an international conference as an opening stage toward direct negotiations. Mr Shamir has no authority to abrogate the Knesset decision of October 1985.

The Alignment ministers statement further says Shamir spoke in the Knesset not as the prime minister, but rather as a minister whose remarks are not binding on the government. Shamir's remarks might harm the peace process. The Alignment ministers also say Shamir must make it clear to the foreign leaders with whom he will meet that in his opposition to the international conference he is presenting his personal opinion, not the position of the government.

Alignment Attacks Rejected

TA111000 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0944 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] We have a reaction from the Prime Minister's Office to the Alignment ministers statement attacking the prime minister for his remarks in the Knesset regarding the international conference. The Prime Minister's Office statement reads as follows: In his response to the interpellation of the opposition Knesset members yesterday, the prime minister stated there is no government decision regarding the convening of an international conference with Israeli participation. This is the position the prime minister is presenting and will continue to present at every opportunity.

It is absurd to accuse the prime minister of wanting to dissolve the unity government. The prime minister rejects the insulting

style of the Alignment ministers statement of this morning. The Prime Minister's Office also notes the prime minister and the vice prime minister never had a procedure for coordinating their responses to interpellations in the Knesset.

Shamir Hits Knesset Decision

TA111220 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes Israel would be made to agree to an international conference, because this might bring us into a conflict with the entire world. He believes such a conference would result in the establishment of a Palestinian state and total Israeli withdrawal from the territories. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports these remarks were made in a briefing to correspondents in the Prime Minister's Office. Mr Shamir believes the decisions made by the Knesset and its committees do not bind the government, and even 20 speeches in the Knesset cannot influence it. Our correspondent says Shamir was referring to the Knesset decision of October 1985 regarding an international conference.

Peres Defends Stance

TA111021 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says if we oppose an international conference now we will be arresting the peace process at a sensitive stage and will be seen in the world as a rejectionist front. Mr Peres was answering interpellations in the Knesset by Tehiya Knesset Member [MK] Ge'ula Kohen, Alignment MK Sevah Weiss, and MAPAM MK Ya'ir Tzaban.

Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli notes that in the course of the discussion Mr Peres emphasized five times Israel is willing to participate in an international conference as part of the peace negotiations process. Mr Peres noted there is no government decision against an international conference; on the contrary, there is a government decision dating from 10 years ago in favor of such a conference, and a Knesset decision from last year in favor of an international forum. The foreign minister reiterated there are still differences of opinion with Egypt and Jordan on the issue of the conference. These differences involve the Palestinian representation and Soviet participation, among other things.

Release of Egyptian Crew 'Expected' After Talks

TA101317 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Israel has given Egypt details about the ship the Navy seized with 50 terrorists onboard, because the 8 crew members are Egyptian. The eight are still being interrogated, but are being held separately from the terrorists. This information was conveyed by the Israeli ambassador in Cairo, and simultaneously given to the Egyptian ambassador in Israel.

A senior source in Jerusalem told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that from the interrogation of the crew it transpires they apparently picked the terrorists up in Cyprus without knowing who they were. It is expected upon the completion of the interrogation they will be sent back to Egypt with the vessel.

ALGERIA

Talks With French Finance Minister Begin 6 Feb

LD062343 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Algerian-French talks in the field of cooperation started late this afternoon at the Al-Mathaq residence between Finance Minister Abdelaziz Khellef, and Edouard Balladur, French minister of state of economy, finance, and privatization. The talks were later broadened to include the delegations of both countries.

Participating on the Algerian side were: (Smail Hamdani), secretary general of the Foreign Ministry; Abdelhamid Mehri, Algerian ambassador to France; and senior officials from the Ministries of Finance and Foreign Affairs. Taking part on the French side was a large delegation, including the French ambassador to Algeria. Balladur, who is on a working visit to our country, arrived in Algiers today. He will hold a news conference late tomorrow morning at the airport before departing.

Minister Holds News Conference

LD072116 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 7 Feb 87

[Text] The French finance minister left Algiers early this afternoon. Before leaving, Edouard Balladur was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahimi, and Finance Minister Abdelaziz Khellef.

Balladur gave a news conference at Houari Boumedienne Airport, and summed up his talks with Algerian officials of which bilateral relations occupied a prominent part.

[Begin Balladur recording] We agreed it is necessary to solve the problems of the past quickly to devote ourselves to the future. I stressed how concerned we are about everything related to the concrete everyday problems of our nationals in Algeria, as we are about the Algerian community in France. Progress has already been made, progress which we have noted: the intention to restart talks on a legal convention, for example; the decision to set up a system of mediation to avoid resorting to legal proceedings over the difficult issue of children of mixed parents who have separated; and, as regards this question, a magistrate will be appointed in the near future on the French side.

We have decided above all to speed things up, so to speak, to find a solution to the various issues still outstanding. These are numerous and of varying degrees of importance. They have been outstanding for a long time and both sides consider it imperative to settle them quickly. [end recording]

Bilateral relations and international issues were discussed:

[Begin Balladur recording] As regards the great problems of foreign policy, we noted between us a large convergence of views on a whole range of problems that one can describe from both the French and the Algerian points of view as problems of mutual interest. Regarding the conflict between Iraq and Iran, for example, we support the initiative of UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, who was in Algiers for a few days and who then went to Paris. We support his initiative to bring an end to the conflict. Concerning Chad, we are also in agreement in insisting on the paramount and urgent need for a peaceful solution to the conflict. As regards the Israeli-Arab conflict, we both believe a fair and lasting solution to this conflict must be found. We also talked — without dwelling on the matter — about the prospects for an international conference. Lastly, both sides hope the Mediterranean region will be kept out of East-West confrontations and that it will remain a region of peace and cooperation.

Of course we also talked about problems pertaining more especially to the Maghreb, problems that concern France first and foremost because of a long tradition and because of its geographical and cultural proximity. We examined the conditions which would permit the three Maghreb countries to develop harmoniously, knowing that this is Algeria's objective and also knowing that it is in France's interest that the Maghreb countries enjoy the most harmonious relations possible and the closest cooperation possible. [end recording]

Congolese President, Delegation Begin Visit

LD082002 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Mr Sassou-Nguesso, Congolese president and current OAU chairman, accompanied by his wife and Ide Oumarou, OAU secretary general, arrived in Algiers early this evening. The guests were welcomed by President Chadli Bendjedid and his wife, members of the Political Bureau, and members of the Congolese community in Algiers. The Congolese delegation includes, among others, the ministers of finance and budget, planning and economy, and foreign affairs. [passage omitted]

LIBYA

Tripoli Responds to Mitterrand Remarks on Chad

LD101503 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1330 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] French President Mitterrand has again admitted to the presence of French forces in Chad. In an attempt to justify this presence, he said these forces are currently in Chad at the request of that country's legitimate government. This was said in a speech delivered by the French president at a banquet in the presence of Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso.

In reply to these statements, a spokesman at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison stressed the following:

1. The French President's remarks confirm that the French military presence in Chad is illegitimate. The urgently dispatched troops to Chad are essentially an imperialist occupation force on African territory. Their presence is imposed through agentry, imperialism, and force. The justifications for the French position prove French involvement more than they clear it. We do not know whether French public opinion is convinced by these justifications.

2. When the GUNT was in Ndjamena and Libyan forces were in Chad in 1981 at the request of that legitimate government, a clamor was raised in France and by its friends over the presence of Libyan forces in Ndjamena. They went so far as to demand their withdrawal.

3. The Libyan presence in Ndjamena in 1981 was based on a joint cooperation and defence agreement between the legitimate GUNT and the Great Jamahiriyah. However, the presence of the French occupation forces in Chad now is not based on any defense or security agreement that could justify it. The Ndjamena clique, at whose request France claims it intervened, has no legitimacy that would give it that right.

4. It is amazing that the same clamor is not raised about the presence of French occupation forces. Have circumstances and facts changed? Or is it that the unlawful presence of French forces in Chad has become lawful and the presence of Libyan forces in Ndjamena in the past was unlawful?

5. Concern for African stability and safety necessarily dictates that the position of those who called for the departure of Libyan troops from Ndjamena in the past should be the same now, and should demand the withdrawal of French forces from Chad as a principal condition for achieving peace in that country and securing security and stability on the African Continent.

The colonialist logic used by the French President is the same as that which determines France's position in justifying its ownership of the Comoran Mayotte isles, the African Reunion isles, and the Islands of Guadeloupe, Martinique, and New Caledonia in the Pacific and the Caribbean. This logic is rejected by the peoples of Africa and the Pacific and Caribbean islands and all free people in the world, because it is the logic of colonialism imposed by force.

Possible Israeli Pilot Release 'Insult' to Arabs
LD102339 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] International news agencies reported extended contacts and arrangements for releasing a Zionist pilot in exchange for 400 Arab prisoners in occupied Palestine.

JANA's Arab affairs editor has commented on that. He stressed that the mere suggestion of such a shameful exchange is an insult to the pride of the Arab person. Is there a bigger insult than making a worthless foreign Zionist the equal of 400 Arabs and exchanging him for them?

Revolutionary Students Demolish 'Traitor's' Den
LD102232 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The revolutionary force at the educational institutions in Wadi al-Hayah, Murzuq, and Sabha municipalities, after a march organized this morning in Sabha at the end of their revolutionary meeting, and to the sound of revolutionary chanting, demolished a den belonging to a symbol of the defunct era, Muhammad Sayf al-Nasr, one of the conspiring traitors who strangled the Libyan people during the defunct era.

The den, demolished by the Jil Al-Ghadab [Generation of Anger] student revolutionary force, witnessed the torture of the revolutionary student Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi when he led the student demonstrations in Sabha.

MOROCCO

Authorities Deny Report of Student Unrest
LD111220 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1121 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Rabat, 11 Feb (MAP) — Authorized Moroccan circles yesterday categorically denied allegations by Paris International Radio, reported in its evening newscast, that there was serious student unrest in the city of Fes, which resulted in the injury and detention of about 100 people, and recalling similar incidents that happened on 20 January in Al Hoceima, which the Moroccan circles immediately denied.

The same circles strongly condemned that radio station and wondered at the shameful motives behind the bias of some French media organs, which are always willing to gather and exaggerate news reported by some anti-Moroccan elements aiming, through slander campaigns, at discrediting Morocco's reputation and harming its image.

SUDAN

Army Official Says Ethiopia Shelling Border Town
EA102050 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] An official source in the General Command of the People's Armed Forces said that during the past 4 days the Sudanese town of Jokau, in Upper Nile, has been exposed to concentrated artillery shelling from inside the Ethiopian part of Jokau, on the border between Sudan and Ethiopia.

The source confirmed the involvement of Ethiopian forces in this offensive, which indicates a shameful and clear offensive on the part of the Ethiopian authorites against Sudan. [Words indistinct] the international charters which affect relations of good-neighborliness between the two countries.

Armed Forces Radio Warns States Assisting Garang
EA041932 Omdurman Radio of the Sudan People's Armed Forces in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Muhammad Shawl commentary]

[Excerpts] We want to tell you today about the problems John Garang has been making for the citizens of the south and the citizens of Sudan on the pretext of liberating them.

Today we want to speak to the states providing assistance to John Garang; Ethiopia and socialist states like the Soviet Union and

Cuba. We say to you that the assistance you provide in the name of liberation is considered by Sudan to be assistance for the sabotage of Sudan. If you are providing this assistance for the south, we would like to tell you that John Garang is making problems for the southerners and has made them refugees in Sudan. If the aim is to introduce communism to Sudan, communism cannot be introduced into Sudan by force.

That is why we tell John Garang and Ethiopia that if the war continues any longer it will be a war between Sudan and the states providing assistance to John Garang. If they want to assist the sons of the south in (Anyanya Two), we say we are the sons of the south and we are the ones who speak mainly on behalf of the south.

John Garang says he speaks on behalf of Sudan, yet he lives outside Sudan. He stays in the hotels of Addis Ababa and Europe, and all those with him enjoy comfort, whereas his soldiers are in the open air. They are hungry and sick and are daily tiring of this war whose purpose remains a mystery to them.

So, we tell our sincere brothers in the SPLA ranks that anyone —particularly those who are in Bahr al-Ghazal, Equatoria, and Upper Nile areas, Benitu, Fangak Island and Akobo, those around Nasir and (Baban), and near Renk and Kodok — who wants to surrender, that it is (?high) time to give yourself up and give us peace so we may build schools and hospitals and so all our people may have food.

But if they continue to believe they are strong and can kill citizens and steal their property, if they think that (Anyanya Two) is their primary enemy, we tell them: You have become agents of foreign countries. You are serving objectives hostile to freedom and the people's interests. You are like the communists who say they favor freedom and peace, but their peace means force of arms. John Garang's position is the same as the socialist states, which claim that they are for freedom and peace. [passage omitted]

We are certain that the colleagues who are working for us inside the SPLA, will [word indistinct] and kill you whenever you approach them, because you are killing their people and doing things that are basically not in the interests of the south of Sudan as a whole. We ask the leaders and presidents of African states to apply pressure on the Government of Abyssinia. We also tell the humanitarian organizations you must not be silent about the people in the south who have lost their homes because of John Garang's movement. [passage omitted]

In (Anyanya Two), when we fight John Garang, we are not fighting him without a cause. We have a cause: It is basically for federalism in Sudan. It is also related to the principle of equality among the sons of a single homeland. When we accepted the cease-fire we did not accept it on the basis of treachery, as John Garang said. We accepted it because Sudan had become the target of certain states. [passage omitted]

We call on the forces of John Garang everywhere in the south to [word indistinct] so we can sit at the constitutional conference and discuss these issues seriously. We say to all the sons of the south in Ethiopia that the time has come when you can stage demonstrations inside Ethiopia as an expression of the strength of Sudan and the strength of (Anyanya Two), because [words indistinct] would mean you are with Garang. We know the torture the Ethiopians are inflicting on you.

We also say to the Ethiopian Government that we know you have been putting our sons in prisons. Your prisons are full of the sons of the south. You say you are assisting the refugees. Today we have no refugees in Ethiopia. But we know you do not want to allow the Sudanese, particularly the sons of the south, to return to Sudan because, with their return, you will see the end of Garang. And we are telling you that Garang is finished in the south. [passage omitted]

This is not liberation of Sudan. It is sabotage of Sudan. I tell everyone who assists Garang that we shall (?prepare ourselves). We will carry out suicidal acts against targets in the states that assist John Garang, because these states ignore the fact that our citizens are tired, suffering, and hungry in the country that they are sabotaging. I say this on behalf of (Anyanya Two). (Anyanya Two) will take over Boma Mountain, Al-Dali, and all Garang's areas. We shall fully cooperate in destroying them. [passage omitted]

How can we behave like communists? How can we behave like followers of the socialist countries [word indistinct] which are basically unable to feed their own citizens. Take Abysinia: the majority of its citizens are in Sudan. If their communism was any good, their people would not have fled to Sudan [word indistinct]. They would not have emigrated to Germany. [passage omitted]

Armed Forces Head on Fighting in South

JN100918 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 7 Feb 87 p 3

[Interview with General 'Bū al-'Azim Siddiq Muhammad, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, by Ahmad al-Shammari — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Al-Shammari] Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said recently the southern Sudan problem is nearing a solution, and that government forces are now chasing the rebel remnants. Is this to say the problem is about to be solved once and for all?

[Muhammad] Certainly not. There are reservations as to a definitive resolution of the problem: It is a long-standing problem, exacerbated by British colonialism. Efforts are being made toward a peaceful, negotiated settlement. But the rebels are still mounting operations against government forces. The last of these was in the tropical Bor area. The rebels had laid a year-long siege on the town of Bor, that was lifted by the Armed Forces on 31 September, 1986, after destroying five camps of the outlaws, each housing an 800- to 1,000-strong infantry battalions.

[Al-Shammari] Western assistance in general and Israeli assistance in particular have been largely responsible for continuing hostilities in southern Sudan. How has the present nationalist regime in Sudan managed to stop the flow of weapons to the

rebels across the border from certain African countries? And has the Ethiopian Government ceased its backing of the rebels?

[Muhammad] Regrettably we have not managed to close all the loopholes through which arms have been smuggled to the rebels. Ethiopia is providing unlimited backing to them. The Sudanese-Ethiopian frontiers are long and the terrain is rugged. There are numerous crossing points, which make it easy for the rebels to infiltrate in large numbers, harass the population, and ransack their properites. The rebels have been resisted by the Armed Forces and in some areas of the tropical region civilians put up stiff resistance. Ethiopia offers arms as well as material and moral assistance. Assistance also comes from many foreign countries operating under the cover of relief work and religion. [passage omitted]

[Al-Shammari] The latest weapon used by the rebels is starving the south. Has this ended, and how?

[Muhammad] They have resorted to cutting roads by laying ambushes at river routes and through antiaircraft defences. On our side, we in the Armed Forces make gigantic efforts to keep the airports and air strips open. Besides, the presence of a large number of Army groups in the major airports of Juba, Waw, and Malakal deny the rebels the opportunity to disrupt plane landings and takeoffs. Every effort has been made to provide protection for boats traveling by night. Hardly any nightime journey from Kosti to Malakal takes place without clashes with the rebels, but we always force them to flee and succeed in getting supplies through to civilians and troops in the southern areas. [passage omitted]

50 Militiamen Killed in Upper Nile Clashes

EA062014 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Excerpt] More than 50 of Al-Sadiq's militiamen have been killed and several others wounded in clashes with the SPLA forces of Mazlum and Fashoda battalions at (Jamjam) area in northern Upper Nile on 27 January 1987. A correspondent for Radio SPLA in northern Upper Nile said that the militia's camp at (Jamjam) has been burned down and the militiamen have scattered. [passage omitted]

SPLA Claims Recapture of Post

EA061605 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Reports from the Central South Sudan Zonal command have said that SPLA force under overall command of Lieutenant Colonel Kuol Manyang Juk, alternate member of SPLM/SPLA Political-Military High Command of south central Sudan, have recaptured Tombe station, north of Juba, a few miles from Jabal Ladu.

The correspondent says that the station fell after a brief battle with the enemy soldiers and their militia who he said retreated towards Juba in complete disarray under hot pursuit by the SPLA forces.

FRG Defense Official Arrives on 'Official' Visit

JN061839 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum Feb 6 (SUNA) Assistant of the Defence Minister of Federal Republic of Germany Mr Peter Kurt Wurzbach [name as received] has arrived here today on a two-day official visit to Sudan.

Upon the arrival he said in a press statement his visit comes in the context of boosting the cooperation between the two countries in the various fields, adding that he will discuss with the Commander in Chief General Fawzi Ahmad al-Fadil the military cooperation between the two countries and the ways of boosting it further.

While here he will participate in the inauguration of the second phase of the military vocational training centre in Kadar, Khartoum north suburb.

State Council's Yasin, Group Return From Egypt

JN081755 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1728 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Feb (SUNA) — State Council member Muhammad al-Hasan 'Abdallah Yasin and his delegation returned to Khartoum from Cairo at dawn today following a 4-day visit to Egypt during which he held talks with Egyptian officials on bilateral cooperation in various areas.

Yasin left for Baghdad on a week-long visit to Iraq after participating in the Fifth ICO Summit in Kuwait. He left Iraq for Cairo on 3 February. His delegation comprised the works minister, the head of the Arab Department at the Foreign Ministry, and the director of the president's office.

Trade Protocol, Agreement Signed With Egypt

JN061721 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Feb (SUNA) — A trade protocol between Sudan and Egypt for the year 1987, and another long-term trade agreement between the two countries were signed here this afternoon.

The volume of the protocol, signed on the Egyptian side by Dr Yusri Mustafa, Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade, who is currently visiting the country, is $284.5 million

According to the protocol, Egypt will export commodities worth $120 million to Sudan, while Sudan will export commodities worth $80 million to Egypt. The volume of the equal deals will be $76 million, with $38 million for each country; the volume of border trade will be $8.5 million, with $4.25 million for each country.

The Egyptian side also agreed to increase the exchange rate of the dollar, compared to the Egyptian pound, by 40 percent over the current exchange rate.

In a speech made after the agreement was signed, Trade Minister Abu Harirah said no coercion was used by any party in securing the approval of the items of the agreement and that only common interests affected their talks. The minister said the agreement benefits the interests of the two fraternal peoples and added that it was signed at a time when some people were tampering with the relationship between the two peoples and exerting all possible efforts to prevent the signing of this agreement. These people, the minister said, tried to portray the Sudanese negotiator as weak. He also paid tribute to the great attention shown in this regard by Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, and his concern for the continuation of the negotiations.

Dr Abu Harirah expressed his satisfaction and happiness with the agreement, which was signed through dialogue and fruitful negotiations, and which was reached quickly. He also paid tribute to the understanding shown by the Egyptian delegation.

In the speech he made after the protocol was signed, Dr Yusri Mustafa, Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade, said: The two sides agreed that each country will meet its needs from domestic production before resorting to the other country, and that further customs exemptions and reductions will be reciprocated. He added that the new lists of commodities to be exempted from customs duties when they are exported or imported by either country will be specified within a month from now. The Egyptian minister added that the protocol included a provision specifying an amount in the vicinity of $40 million to be used by Sudan to buy Egyptian exports of spare parts, production requirements, and supplies needed by the Sudanese industrial sector. This provision, the minister said, is in harmony with the industrial protocol signed in Cairo last month. The Egyptian minister added that the signing of the agreement is the beginning of a new phase in bilateral economic and trade relations.

Meanwhile, Dr Abu Harirah told SUNA the agreement signed today restabilizes the bilateral trade balance in favor of Sudan.

The negotiations on the bilateral trade protocol were suspended at the end of joint meetings held in Cairo last July, and were resumed in Khartoum on 2 February. Yesterday Dr Abu Harirah had announced the signing of the protocol would be postponed for an indefinite period of time, despite the fact that the two sides were scheduled to sign the agreement yesterday.

Prime Minister Al-Mahdi Visits Netherlands

For reportage on the 4-day visit by Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi to the Netherlands, including his meeting with his Netherlands counterpart Ruud Lubbers and his 6 February news conference at The Hague, see the Benelux section of the 5 February Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Receives Togolese Foreign Minister

LD102306 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba received Togolese Foreign Minister Koffi Amega in the presence of Rachid Sfar, Mansour Skhiri, Hedi Mabrouk, and Tawfiq Abdennbi, the Tunisian Ambassador in Lome. Amega declared he has consideration and respect for President Habib Bourguiba, not only because of his personality and the struggle he has been carrying out since his youth to lead Africa and especially Tunisia to national liberation and pride, but also because of the actions he has carried out, especially in Africa, since his excellency is considered one of the founders of African unity. He said in this respect:—"This day is a memorable day for me that cannot be forgotten," and from the bottom of his heart he wished President Habib Bourguiba the best of health and a long life.

"With regard to bilateral cooperation, President Habib Bourguiba has given instructions to his minister of foreign affairs and to me personally to continue on the path of this South-South cooperation," Amega said.

Prime Minister Rachid Sfar also met with Amega in the presence of Hedi Marbouk and Tawfiq Abdennbi.

Minutes of Talks With Algeria Released

LD102154 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The text of the minutes of the Tunisian-Algerian talks was issued today. The details follow:

These talks were held on the occasion of the visit of Algerian Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi to Tunisia within the framework of the celebration of the 29th anniversary of the glorious events of Sakiet Sidi Youssef [town attacked by French forces in 1958], in which the blood of the devoted Tunisian and Algerian martyrs mixed. The minutes of these talks indicated that this visit comes within the framework of the consolidation and promotion of the excellent relations existing between the two fraternal countries, which were embodied by the Treaty of Fraternity and Concord signed between them on 19 March 1983.

The visit also comes within the framework of the reinforcement of dialogue, the continuation of consultations, and the intensification of meetings between officials from the two countries in implementation of the directives of the supreme combatant, His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid.

The two sides assessed agreed-upon joint industrial projects and satisfactorily noted the sincere determination prevailing in the execution of the five projects that have reached the final phase

of realization. They also emphasized their firm intention to intensify efforts to complete the other projects.

In their endeavor to strengthen the positive and fruitful path of cooperation and to continue efforts to achieve further integration and to exploit the productive energies available in the two countries in the best way possible, and within a framework compatible with the requirements of the international economic crisis, the two sides noted with satisfaction the agreement on the development of the chicken farming project in Tabarka and recommended the speedy setting-up of the new joint enterprise for this project. They also recommended the acceleration of capital investment in joint companies, the usefulness of which has been established in companies dealing in sheet metal processing, the manufacture of plastic injection molding equipment in Algeria, and the manufacture of textile machines and freon gas in Tunisia.

The two sides also hailed the progress made in the field of industrial integration in the car manufacturing and car components sector. They recommended the control of practical measures to embody the agreement reached in this respect especially between the National Company for Industrial Vehicles and the Tunisian Car Manufacturing Company.

With regard to the other industrial sectors, the two sides urged the carrying out of extensive studies in the field of integration and exchange and they agreed to set a meeting for the two competent ministers as soon as possible to follow up this endeavor.

In the commercial fields, the two sides noted with satisfaction the continuing development of their trade exchanges and stressed the need to reinforce them and promote them within the framework of the commercial integration and (?preferential supply) between them in accordance with the needs of the two countries' markets. To that effect, the trade ministers of the two countries should meet soon to draw up the most effective ways for promoting and reinforcing exchanges between the two countries.

With regard to the use of water resources and the protection of the environment, it has been decided to entrust the joint committee competent in this field with preparing a draft agreement on how to use water resources in a rational way and how to fight pollution, and with holding consultations on the possibility of drawing up projects in the future that would be put before the complete quarters as soon as possible so the legislative authorities in both countries could examine and approve them.

While reviewing the situation in the Maghreb, the Tunisian and Algerian sides expressed their conviction that the construction of the Maghreb required the continuation of efforts to achieve solidarity and integration between its member-states, and the setting-up of close cooperation between them based on mutual respect, good neighborliness, and noninterference in internal affairs.

The two sides considered the Treaty of Fraternity and Concord, which groups Tunisia, Algeria, and Mauritania, as a crucial step for the embodiment of the political will and the sincere determination for a true and honest cooperation, which should include all the countries in the region. They also stressed the need to take measures to eliminate the causes of tension from the region to enable the countries in it to devote their efforts and energies to development and the construction of a better common future.

The two sides expressed their hope for a just and lasting solution to the Western Sahara issue in accordance with Resolution 104 of the 19th OAU Summit and Resolution 50/40 of the UN General Assembly. Abdelhamid Brahimi expressed his appreciation and admiration for the important achievements realized by the Tunisian Republic in all fields under the leadership of the supreme combatant and his wise government. He also expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the warm welcome and the true hospitality he and the delegation accompanying him received and which reflect the solidity of the excellent fraternal links existing between His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, and between the two fraternal peoples.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Speaks on Socialism, Development

EA061300 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0915 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Speech by CCM Party Chairman Mwalimu Julius Nyerere at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma on the 20th anniversary of the Arusha Declaration and the 10th anniversary of the CCM Party — live]

[Excerpts] Ndugu President; Ndugu CCM [Chama Cha Mapinduri, revolutionary party] members; Ndugu citizens; and all our distinguished guests:

Today's celebrations have a double significance — the 20th anniversary of the Arusha Declaration, and the 10th anniversary of the founding of the CCM Party. It is a great day and deserves to be so because of its significance. Despite the problems we face, and perhaps because of these problems, we have every right to be happy and to celebrate. [applause]. Because we have reached a festive day in a state of peace and tranquillity. [applause][passage omitted]

Few people in the world recognize the significance of such an event, because it is only when we fail that we receive publicity. [laughter] But already the CCM has established its significance and its legitimacy. When the enemies of our unity attempted to destabilize us, the CCM was able, almost spontaneously and in unison, to clear the political atmosphere that had been polluted. [applause] [passage omitted]

However, we allowed pride in our unity to make us complacent. We thus became negligent. Party branches have not been holding regular sessions in accordance with the Constitution. This means that democracy within the party has been weakened. How can members run to assist their party and make decisions on its aims if they do not meet? Even when such sessions are held, they are not meetings to discuss issues; very often they become speechifying sessions where directives are received from leaders. In such situations it is extremely difficult for our leaders to realize what is on people's minds. They have no way of determining what their problems are. Therefore, they have no opportunity to listen to opinions or to explain the problems.

The outcome of this situation is that democracy has been weakened. In a one-party system, if the party itself is not consistently vigilant, and if its activities are not carried out democratically, the nation will not achieve complete democracy. There is a danger that the people may be isolated from their government, and the government itself may be alienated from the people. [passage omitted]

There are four other factors that have ensured people's problems are always presented to the party and government at the national level. First, the people of Tanzania have achieved a high sense of political awareness. [applause] This is a result of long-term political education. Second, we have a parliament and the Zanzibar House of Representatives where people's proposals and their problems are discussed without inhibition. Third, we have a large number of CCM members and leaders who have remained steadfast. And, fourth, we have the party and government mass media institutions which, as well as explaining our achievements, have also been disclosing our mistakes and problems. As a result of all these factors, our democracy has been maintained. To consolidate it, the party has begun rectifying its mistakes. [passage omitted]

Our party has vast experience in instilling enthusiasm in people and encouraging them to participate in processions and public rallies, such as this one, or to welcome a distinguished guest. But we lack the ability to encourage them to do voluntary work that will remove their problems. [passage omitted]

Whenever there are major celebrations, it is an easy matter for the party to impose duty on commodities made or sold in the country. This is a mistake. It is not the party's job to impose taxes. This is the government's job. The fact that it is easy makes the party lazy. [applause] For a party such as ours, ways of generating income from projects and other activities ought to be a challenge to its leaders. [passage omitted]

Today we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Arusha Declaration. This is one of the achievements inherited from one of the two parties that founded the CCM. The Arusha Declaration defines our party's ideology. It is a major pronouncement on our aim and principles. It is the basis of all decisions by the party and government. As years pass, any major declaration is reviewed over and over again so that the validity of its principles can be established under new conditions.

The U.S. Constitution, for instance, is 200 years old, but it is still in use and has been amended 26 times. Therefore, it is not surprising the hear some people murmuring that the Arusha Declaration needs amendments. Even I, Ndugu President, agree that the Arusha Declaration needs to be reviewed. [applause] It is evident, for instance, that it needs to be reedited so that references to TANU [Tanganika African National Union] are replaced by CCM wherever this occurs.

Apart from editorial changes, let us take a look at its principles. Section one of the Arusha Declaration spells out the party's convictions — that all men are equal; every person deserves respect; that every citizen is part of the nation and has the right to participate equally with others in government at divisional, regional, and central government level; that every citizen has the right to express his views, to have freedom of movement, to follow a faith of his choice and to meet people, as long as he does not violate the law; and so on. All of the nine principles are the same. Who would like us to change them? Probably there are a few who would like changes but not the majority of the peasants and workers of Tanzania. [applause] [passage omitted]

The second part of the Arusha Declaration defines socialism. It is vital that we fully understand this section, because at present there is some confusion about socialism. This section has four parts. It first explains what exploitation is and states that the system of exploitation of man by man cannot be accepted in a socialist state. It concludes by stating: Tanzania is a country of peasants and workers but it is not a country with complete socialism. It has elements of capitalism and feudalism and is

influenced by them. Such elements of capitalism and feudalism could expand and spread.

This was stated 20 years ago, but it is still true today. It is not easy to root out the foundations of capitalism and feudalism in any country. And if such a country has major economic problems, like the ones we are facing, those people who believe in exploitation will take advantage of such problems to divert the country from its objective of building socialism. They will try various tricks in an attempt to incite the people in general and to induce chicken-hearted socialists to turn back, [applause] to abandon the road that has led them to where they are.

They will tell them that if they had opted for another system instead of socialism, it would have led to greater prosperity and they would have avoided all problems. Such are the tricks and maneuvers employed by all capitalists and exploiters as well as their surrogates in Tanzania. [applause] But I do not believe they could really dupe Tanzanians into abandoning their goal of socialism. Tanzanians have greatly benefitted from our progress in creating equality and justice for all, even though such progress has been gradual and not as fast as we expected. We are also aware that some foreign leaders abhor our socialist aims merely because they would like to exploit our country.

The second part of this section states: To eradicate exploitation, the main components of the economy and commerce must be held and administered by peasants and workers through government institutions and cooperative societies. It says the main components of the economy include land, forests, minerals, water, fuel and electricity, the mass media, communications, banks and insurance, external trade and wholesale trade, the steel industry, machinery, weapons, vehicles, cement, fertilizers, textiles and so on. But the Arusha Declaration did not specify which activities should be run by the nation, which ones by local authorities, and which ones by cooperative societies. [passage omitted]

Similarly, the declaration states that land must be owned by the people. But it does not say that a 100-acre farm belonging to so-and-so must be nationalized, nor that a 99-acre farm belonging to another person should not be nationalized. The declaration leaves such matters to the government, under the general guidance of the party. It is the government's duty to make useful plans, to streamline the foundations of ownership, and to exercise control over public activities, taking the prevailing situation into account.

When we are confronted by a new problem, we discuss and decide which activities should be run by the people and which activities could be managed by other means, such as licenses, taxes, or other procedures. Tanzania has completed the task of placing the major components of the economy and commerce in the hands of the people. [passage omitted]

But we cannot accept changes to the principle that the people own and control the major components of the economy. [applause] There are some who would like us to do that, but such persons, Ndugu President, are not socialists, they are not our compatriots. [applause] Placing the major components of the economy and commerce in the hands of the people is an important and indispensable foundation of the policy of building socialism. [passage omitted]

The third section of the Arusha Declaration deals with the policy of self-reliance. It says: TANU is fighting a war to remove this nation from a state of weakness to a state of strength, a war that will enable the people of Tanzania and Africa to develop from a state of destitution to a state of prosperity. I need not tell you that we have not yet won this war. You are fully aware of this. After making an excellent start, we encountered many obstacles on the way. But since we have not yet reconciled ourselves to making sacrifices, we can not say we have been defeated. The struggle continues. [applause] [passage omitted]

The United States is an advanced country. The per capita income of every U.S. citizen is equivalent to $15,390. Tanzania is not yet developed. The per capita income of every Tanzanian citizen is $210. [passage omitted] Let me put this a different way. It would take a Tanzanian 73 years or even more to earn what an American does in 1 year. And the life-span of a Tanzanian is 52 years. It is, therefore, clear that it would be very stupid to try to emulate the rich either in our lifestyle or in our way of ushering in progress. [applause] [passage omitted]

Tanzania is a poor country. We can usher in development through self-reliance. Our development plans must be built on the foundations of what we can do for ourselves through our sweat and through proper organization and implementation. If we make ourselves dependent on money, we will have problems. If we rely on our own efforts, we can achieve development. This is what the Arusha Declaration stated 20 years ago. As a result of our experience, we now see that this is absolutely true. It is true there are certain things one cannot accomplish without money. If your country is not developed, there are many tasks you cannot accomplish if you do not possess foreign exchange.

So, we express our thanks for the aid we have received from people whose countries are our friends. We have the Uhuru railway, the result of assistance from our Chinese brothers. [applause]. We managed to deal with illiteracy because the Swedish Government gave us a great deal of paper with which to make books. [applause] We received about 35,000 tons of wheat annually as a result of the Canadian Government loan that enabled us to establish Basoti Farm. [applause] We have highways, modern hospitals, secondary schools for agriculture and science, and some industries because our friends gave us financial assistance.

None of these things would have been accomplished without money, especially foreign exchange. But this was assistance that supplemented our own efforts and resources. It was not meant to enable us to sleep. Progress achieved through such assistance must be consolidated and perpetuated through our own efforts.

But nowadays there are some people who do not think of doing anything for themselves. When a village school is needed, we seek help. When we need a milling machine, we ask for assistance. If we want a dispensary, we go out to beg. And why has this not been accomplished? We have not yet got a sponsor.

Ndugu President, such attitudes are misleading. They are always completely contrary to the Arusha Declaration. Such attitudes are foolish today because our economic problems are a result of our own errors, and our biggest mistake has been the complete disregard of our policy of self-reliance. We do not even earn enough foreign exchange to pay for basic needs such as fuel, industrial spare parts, medicine, school textbooks, railroad cars, trucks, and tractors. All this has come about because we have not taken the big stride toward self-reliance.

It is true that the government must look for loans and aid so that services may be provided. But the aid given by the rich nations for development has now been substantially reduced. It is more difficult to get loans, and servicing them costs much more. Conditions for the granting of such loans or aid are now extremely difficult, and quite often they have political strings attached.

Nowadays, a government is often told: We will give you loans if you abandon your policy of socialism. Or sometimes they ask: How can we give you grants while you continue to fight the Boers? This is what the Arusha Declaration said would happen. Even when we could get such aid, this very reliance on others would have threatened our independence and the policies of our country.

It is clear that if we rely heavily on money for our progress when we do not have such money, we will become the slaves of those who do have money. [applause] [passage omitted]

The Arusha Declaration says self-rule is self-reliance.

The IMF is neither friendly to Tanzania's allies nor is it a friend of poor countries. It is an organization that is used by imperialist countries, which actually run it, to control the economies of poor countries and to destabilize the governments of the countries they despise. Tanzania is among these countries. We should not forget this or let others think we have forgotten. It has been said that being on permanent alert is a price one must pay to remain independent. You should, therefore, remain alert. [applause]

We have been oppressed long enough. If you agree to give the imperialists a goat, they will ask you for a camel the next time. Temptation to give in to their demands will keep increasing as time goes by, thus exacerbating the situation, because the prices for our cash crops keep decreasing. Our problems are therefore numerous. I know our CCM government will continue to fight against these temptations from abroad, but we cannot work miracles: We can only safeguard our independence by making greater moral and practical efforts to become self-reliant. Making greater efforts to bring about self-reliance is not only government policy but the party's duty at all levels.

We have made progress in various fields since 1967. We have been able to build our nation's economic base through socialism, but we have ignored the issue of self-reliance. What Tanzanians who love socialism want most are good ways of distributing our poverty equally. [sentence as heard] Those who oppose socialism want good ways of making poor Tanzanians even poorer. But the issue of ways of bringing about development for all by making joint efforts toward self-reliance is not often mentioned. It is now time for this issue to be given first priority. [applause] [passage omitted]

We are in dire need of industries. No modern progress is possible without industries, but it is evident that if we want to establish them, we must either buy them or get them on loan — we cannot create them ourselves. Our ability to purchase industries or to repay such loans must come from our agricultural produce. It is, therefore, clear — except to the very foolish or the ignorant who do not understand history — that if we want to create industrial development, we have no alternative but to give due consideration to our farming. [applause]

Our ability to improve farming on a self-reliant basis is greater then our ability to improve industries. And our ability to improve industries will only come about on the strength of what we achieve from improving our farming. Industries are vital; they are part of the development process.

We have, therefore, built many industries all over Tanzania. But these industries are not operating satisfactorily. Why not? Because, for us to run them properly, spares and raw materials must be imported from outside. These industries are not independent. They rely on foreign exchange obtained from agriculture. All our modern progress depends on our agriculture. To build industries and run them, we must get foreign exchange that is accrued from agriculture.

To run hospitals and clinics, we need foreign exchange with which to purchase medicine and equipment — such money is obtainable from agriculture. If we wish to buy railroad cars, trucks, buses, and the small cars we ride in, we must have foreign exchange obtained from agriculture. If we want electricity and lighting, and even the kerosene with which to light our lamps, as well as water, we must get hold of foreign exchange obtained from agriculture. [passage omitted]

Ndugu President: It would be better if things were otherwise. We need oil. Things will be better when we discover oil deposits. Things will be better when our industries can export our clothes, machines, soap, and other locally manufactured products so that these industries can generate their own foreign exchange. That is exactly what our factories are trying to do but they are going to have to make greater efforts if they are to succeed. In the meantime, our overall economy will have to continue relying on agriculture. This must govern our planning. We have no control over the declining prices applying to the produce we export:

This is also a fact we must face and ponder. To extricate ourselves from poverty we must rely on the people and their land and first priority must be given to agricultural development based on self-reliance. There is no alternative. Food self-sufficiency is vital to our independence.

We have made progress in the education and health services. We are experiencing a high annual population increase: over 700,000 Tanzanians are born every year. They need food and if we are to feed them we must increase food production based on self-reliance. Our survival and independence depend on agriculture, self-reliance agriculture. [passage omitted]

We also have large-scale farms owned by individuals or companies. As these farms need modern agricultural machines not manufactured in Tanzania, they need and use a great deal of foreign exchange, which we must obtain from abroad. It is clear that in our current situation these farms cannot constitute the basis on which we can increase our agricultural production. The small-scale farmer is the key to our economic and social development. [applause]

All our efforts and policies must concentrate on strengthening the productive capacity of the small-scale farmer. If we ignore the Tanzanian peasant, we will be ignoring agriculture itself. [passage omitted]

CAR

Commentary Examines Aims of One-Party System

AB101756 Bangui Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Frederic Beye Tongui commentary]

[Text] After the ill-fated experiences of the multiparty system, the Central African Democratic Rally [RDC; Ressemblement Democratique Centrafricain] has been welcomed with relief by the Central African people whose only aspirations are peace and stability, two conditions without which no progress can be achieved. The definition given by President Andre Kolingba to the RDC is completely edifying.

First of all, it is the expression of the will of Central Africans who have been clamoring for unity. The RDC is also a symbiosis of our ethnic groups. Finally, it is the manifestation of national solidarity. The terms of this definition are complementary, and all point toward reconciliation. The young, old, men, women, manual and intellectual workers, beyond beliefs and opinions, are showing their willingness to reconcile with one another, under the RDC chairman.

President Kolingba has also pronounced some sentences full of meaning which I recall for your memory: We do not belong to any camp, we are Central Africans; reconciliation and brotherliness are the safeguards of our march toward progress. These need no further comment.

The thought of the president is summed up in the following motto: Brotherhood, Work, Progress. As stated by President Andre Kolingba, among the supporters of one cause, understanding is the indispensable condition for success. Understanding is the exact opposite of hatred and rancor; two absolutely negative words. The words union and unity recurred several times in the address delivered by the president at the opening of the assembly devoted to the setting up of the RDC. What else then should be said on that address?

The Central African people are at home in the RDC, which has the mission of channeling all energies, meeting the challenge of history; in short, getting out of underdevelopment. And the RDC is, in this regard, the yardstick for measuring progress.

CHAD

More Reportage on Military Developments

Libyan Air Force Bombs Fada

AB101905 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The Libyan invasion Army continues its indiscriminate air raids against our country, in spite of its daily defeat in the field. The Libyan Army attacked Fada again yesterday and today, dropping tons of bombs on the town.

But the Libyan air and land forces will not succeed in achieving their colonel's diabolic ambitions in the field. The Libyan occupation troops do not want to give up in spite of their unsuccessful adventures against our valiant FANT. But Chadians will not allow their country to be invaded by the barbaric Libyans. So the struggle will continue for the total liberation of our country from Libya.

Mauritanians on Libyan 'Recruitment'

AB101625 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Fourteen prisoners, all Mauritanian nationals belonging to the Islamic Legion, were presented to the press in Ndjamena this morning. All between 17 and 24 years of age, these Mauritanians, who come from the Malian-Mauritanian border area, were forcibly recruited into the Libyan Army about 3 months ago. They stated they received nothing in return and knew nothing about the exact aim of their recruitment into the Libyan Army. However, they disclosed to the press that they went to Libya searching for jobs, because they were jobless people or nomadic cattle rearers in their country. There had been 29 of them in all, but 15 were killed in the recent fighting in Zouar.

After being recruited, they were taken to (Tmassah), a Libyan town, and then transferred to (As Sarfaia) where they said there is a large number of Libyan troops [words indistinct]. The last stage of their recruitment (?occurred) on Chadian territory. The Libyans told us: Stay here and work; defend yourselves if you are attacked, said 24-year-old (Tbasti Hapfal), who was schooled in Mauritania up to the 10th grade. The weapons used by these 29 Mauritanians included [words indistinct] machineguns and RT-20 rifles. They were under the command of another Mauritanian who was killed in Zouar. They revealed that in Zouar, the Islamic Legion is under the authority of a senior Libyan officer, Colonel Idris. [passage omitted]

Radio Claims Libyan Forces 'Regularly Defeated'

AB101743 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Libyan troops have been regularly defeated by Chadian troops on Chadian territory since Libya began its diabolical venture in our country. Libyan troops continue to be crushed by government forces. Last week was marked by lessons taught to the Libyan slavemasters. And in the course of various clashes that took place, the Libyan soldiers left most of its Air Force and Army equipment at the front as well as a large number of dead soldiers and more than 50 new prisoners to be added to the [words indistinct] already captured by the governmental forces.

Last Sunday [8 February], another clash between national forces and Libyan troops took place in Oueita, north of Fada in the Ennedi region. The detailed report on the outcome of this clash is: 12 killed, 7 prisoners of war, and 5 vehicles captured from the Libyan Forces.

In addition to that crushing defeat inflicted on the Libyan Army, the FANT soldiers during their round-the-clock patrols discov-

ered 3 dead Libyan soldiers killed during the 6 February clashes in Zouar. They also took various war weapons abandoned by the retreating enemy.

Following his policy of escapism, Al-Qadhdhafi continues to strengthen his military, material, and human forces in the northern part of our country. The number of Libyan soldiers in northern Chad has increased from 20,000 to 22,000. This reinforcement of the military force follows an important loss within the ranks of the Libyan soldiers. The national forces will unflinchingly continue their national liberation struggle.

OAU 'Efficiency' Questioned; Meddling Rejected

AB101710 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Libya, which is losing on the military front, has been embarking on a diplomatic campaign for a few days now. The campaign is designed to divert the international community's attention from the occupation of Chad by its regular troops. Is independent Africa prepared to thwart Libya's plans, in solidarity with the Chadian people?

As a matter of fact, the current OAU chairman has begun a visit to France during which it seems he will put forward a peace plan for Chad. On his arrival in Paris, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso condemned the presence of all foreign troops in Chad, thus treating the French troops and the Libyan invasion troops on an equal footing. In addition, the OAU chairman called on Chadians to resolve their differences without any foreign interference. The OAU head holds that the conflict is between Chadians. By this, he endorses the Libyan presence in Chad. Once again, this makes us believe the current OAU chairman shares Libya's view, which tends to hide the Chadian-Libyan nature of the conflict.

Fortunately, the French Government, which [words indistinct], has refused to endorse this view, which is tantamount to burying one's head in the sand. In fact, the French Government does not consider the developments in Chad to be a conflict between France and Libya or between Chadians. It is, instead, a Chadian-Libyan conflict. As French President Mitterrand put it, France has nothing to do with this conflict. Its presence in Chad results from a sovereign decision by the Chadian state which made the request.

Asked to clarify its position, the French Government did not fail to note that Chad is the victim of external aggression and this state of affairs should preoccupy the OAU and Chad's friends. In this (?regard), we are shocked to see that it is a non-African country that [words indistinct] to Africa on a question that is not ambiguous.

In the face of the dilly-dallying and Africa's hesitant attitude regarding the tragedy of the Chadian people, we can justifiably question the efficiency of the continental body; namely, the OAU. Worse still, it seems that within the OAU, complacency and even connivance with the aggressor — in the case of Chad — prevail over the sense of duty and responsibility.

What is going on now is still useful in that it strengthens our belief that it is incumbent above all upon us Chadians to overcome the Libyan challenge. To the OAU, we will simply recall that its role is neither to foster confusion on such a [word indistinct] nor to meddle with the internal affairs of Chad, a matter of sovereignty for the Chadian Government.

The OAU can only intervene in the event of a conflict between two states to settle this conflict peacefully. That is precisely what Chad, our country, wants.

Sudanese Group Arrives for Talks on Conflict

AB101528 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Dr Ali Hasan Taj al-Din, member of the Sudanese Presidential Council, arrived in Ndjamena this morning. He was welcomed at the airport by Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Gouara Lassou. Also present at the airport were Ahmed Korom, secretary of state for foreign affairs, and Mahamad (Tider), member of the Executive Bureau of the National Union for Independence and Revolution Central Committee.

Taj al-Din is in Ndjamena within the framework of a mediation initiative in the Chadian-Libyan conflict. A technical meeting will be held tomorrow at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ndjamena between the Chadian and Sudanese delegations.

GUNT Statement Says Ndjamena 'Propagating Lies'

LD092130 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1845 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Bardai, 9 Feb (JANA) — Radio Bardai has broadcast a statement issued by the GUNT. The statement asserts that the information organs of the Ndjamena group, with the support of French and U.S. media, has been propagating lies with regard to some imaginary victories achieved by Ndjamena mercenaries in various parts of Chad.

The imperialist media hastens, as usual, to propagate such lies, to exaggerate them and to repeat them. At the same time, a total silence is being imposed regarding the GUNT's military victories over the mercenaries of the Ndjamena group.

The developing military situation on the ground is totally different to what is being propagated by the media of the Ndjamena group and to what is being repeated by imperialism information organs; the following facts affirm this:

1. The mercenaries of the Ndjamena group, who are being supported by France, have been routed and defeated more than once by the GUNT forces in Zouar;

2. The GUNT forces have taken the initiative and have mounted a series of operations behind enemy lines;

3. Fada is under siege, under continuous attacks by the GUNT forces and is about to fall.

The GUNT, while exercising its militant and liberating role, affirms that it is not only determined to retake Fada but is determined to liberate the whole of Chad, until the fascist and agent regime represented by the "Ndjamena" group is toppled, and the Chadian people, with all its political and racial structures, has achieved freedom, security and national interests, which are desired by all Chadians.

CONGO

President Interviewed on OAU Position on Chad
LD092335 Paris Domestic Service in French
1820 GMT 9 Feb 87

["Face the Public" program: Interview with President Denis Sassou-Nguesso by French radio correspondent Ralph Pinto; French TV correspondent Paul Nahon; and *Le Monde* correspondent Laurent Sequiney; in Brazzaville on 9 February; presented by Gilbert Denoyan — live or recorded; questioners not identified]

[Excerpts] [Denoyan] Good evening, Mr President.

[Sassou-Nguesso] Good evening.

[Denoyan] Thank you for welcoming us here in the People's Palace in Brazzaville on the eve of your official visit to France. [passage omitted] During your official visit to France you are going to meet Francois Mitterrand and Jacques Chirac. What is the message you are bringing to French public opinion, and in particular, how do you see relations between France and Africa developing?

Here to question you around this table are Paul Nahon of Antenne-2, Laurent Sequiney of *Le Monde*, and Ralph Pinto of France Inter.

[Correspondent] Mr President, you are one of the youngest African presidents. The French know well the big personalities of the decolonization period. I would say that you represent another view of the evolution of this continent and its relations with the industrialized countries. Could you tell us in a few sentences how you would define this new period in Africa?

[Sassou-Nguesso] [Passage omitted] You have also said that Africa is a unit that is difficult to put together. [passage omitted] African unity is difficult to achieve, but it must be known that Africa, this continent, has been able to achieve political organization, bringing together about 50 states, in a solid organization. I believe a lot of continents have difficulty in achieving this. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] [Passage omitted] Three weeks ago Chad's President Hissein Habre said the OAU has never solved any conflict in Africa. You have spoken of unity, of the desire to solve these problems. If we come to Chad — Chad, as you know, is of great interest to the French and French politics — we get the impression that there is a kind of cacophony rather than unity of viewpoints.

[Sassou-Nguesso] On the question of Chad: Despite appearances, there is a united viewpoint within the OAU. This means that the Chadian question is an African question and a Chadian question; that Chad must preserve its independence and its territorial integrity; that Chad must solve its crisis without external interference and through a process of national reconciliation; a process which, moreover, has been undertaken for some time.

[Correspondent] Mr President, I am rather struck by what you say about Chad, because all the African states, it is true, see themselves in what you have just said. But what you stated is a matter of grand principles. As soon as we begin talking about concrete things, especially like the matter of the presence of Libyan troops in northern Chad, there are a number of African states that denounce this presence, and there are many others that refuse to denounce it.

[Sassou-Nguesso] Many others refuse to denounce foreign presences in Chad? No. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Mr President, do you think the Chad conflict is also a war between France and Libya, and do you think if things are okay between Frence and Libya, it will automatically mean things will be better between the Chadians?

[Sassou-Nguesso] I do not say the Chadian question is a war between France and Libya. This is not what I said. Even if France and Libya were not involved, perhaps we could find internal problems in Chad, as there are in other countries, but these would be internal problems to that one country, I think. Chad is not the only country with this kind of problem — other countries in Africa or on other continents have internal problems that they have to solve themselves.

[Correspondent] Mr President, let us be precise on the matter of Chad. In his latest statement to *Le Monde*, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said France must withdraw from Chad. Do you agree? Let us be precise: yes or no?

[Sassou-Nguesso] It serves no purpose to reply with a yes or no. I believe the Chad question does not depend solely on the statements of (?president) al-Qadhdhafi...

[Correspondent, interrupting] There are three parties — the Chadians, the French, and the Libyans. In the first stage, the Libyans and the French must withdraw. Do you agree, more or less, with that?

[Sassou-Nguesso] It is the position of the OAU which still demands...

[Correspondent, interrupting] Are you intervening with your friend Al-Qadhdhafi to get him to withdraw?

[Sassou-Nguesso] I do not intervene with my friend Al-Qadhdhafi. I intervene with the Libyan authorites and the French authorities, as this happened in 1984, so that, in a real

way, the foreign troops will leave Chad definitively; Chad will have its territorial integrity again, as well as its independence; and the Chadian leaders will solve their problems.

[Correspondent] Mr President, what you are questioning, in a way, is the whole of France's policies toward its African friends. You are asking France not to be involved, I would say, in the maintenance of the borders of a number of states (?which certainly resulted from) decolonization — you are asking France to abandon its policy of keeping a military presence in Africa. It is quite clear. Is this what you are going to say to President Mitterrand and to Jacques Chirac?

[Sassou-Nguesso] No, no. That is not the point, that is not the point. France has defense agreements with sovereign states. I do not think there will be this type of defense agreement with Chad; I may be mistaken. But in the end it is up to states to conclude with others defense agreements; there are several. This is not the issue, however; it is the special case of Chad and I prefer it to be treated in this way.

[Correspondent] Mr President, if I understand you, that means you are saying the presence of French troops and Libyan troops is equally illegitimate. That means you make no distinction between the wish of President Hissein Habre, recognized by a sector of the international community as the legitimate head of state, to call on French troops, whom he can ask to leave. You see no difference between this sovereign decision and the occupation of the north of Chad by Libya?

[Sassou-Nguesso] No, we never sought to look at this issue in the way you put it. We believe that it was not for nothing that the French and Libyans signed an agreement in 1984; it was not for nothing that they signed that agreement on the withdrawal of their troops. I considered it was also a process, an idea, which could be taken up in the context of a search for a solution to the Chadian problem. I am not challenging the power of President Hissein Habre to appeal to one country or another. But this involves searching for a solution to a precise problem that arises. I think this was, as we saw in 1984, one of the elements of the approach in 1984.

[Correspondent] Do you not think, Mr President, that the French might no longer be too keen to meet Col al-Qadhdhafi and to make an agreement with him insofar as following the Crete agreement — they had the feeling, and perhaps rightly, that they were cheated by this agreement.

[Sassou-Nguesso] That is quite understandable. When we make contact with President [title as heard] al-Qadhdhafi, with President Mitterrand, Prime Minister Chirac, we deal with these problems with these authorities and I believe this is a matter of acting in a serious way; and that if decisions were made, it would not be lightly. We noted that these authorities do not formally refuse this type of contact and examination of the Chadian problem, but we start from the principle that we must act in a serious way. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Will you propose, when you are in Paris, a further meeting between Chirac and Al-Qadhdhafi, or Mitterrand and Al-Qadhdhafi?

[Sassou-Nguesso] It is not a matter of systematically proposing meetings; it is a matter above all of trying to see how far we can see to it that Chad recovers its independence, its territorial integrity, and that through a process of national reconciliation peace will return to Chad, this country which has suffered for 20 years. I believe this is the issue; we should not systematically look for fixed formulations.

[Correspondent] Mr President, you are chairman of the OAU. Thus, according to what you have been saying for some time — if you are speaking on behalf of this African unity, which you just now considered to be partially achieved — on the withdrawal of foreign troops in Chad, on Chadian soil, can you perhaps guarantee this from the African side?

[Sassou-Nguesso] What means guarantee?

[Correspondent, interrupting] That means, if you are talking about withdrawal of foreign forces from Chad, perhaps you can say with more certainty that Al-Qadhdhafi wants to withdraw his troops from Chad?

[Sassou-Nguesso] Well, when we make contact with President al-Qadhdhafi, or with President Mitterrand or Prime Minister Chirac; when we raise this problem of the withdrawal of foreign troops as one factor in the approach, we do not do it in this way. We say clearly that Libyan troops and French troops should leave Chad and Chad should recover its territorial integrity, its independence, and the Chadian leaders, through the process of national reconciliation which is underway, should achieve reconciliation in their country. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Mr President, concerning southern Africa for instance; you came back from New Delhi, where the African Fund was created for solidarity with South African countries, the Frontline States in particular, and the liberation movements that fight against the Pretoria regime, but isn't there some discrepancy in this action on the international level and when everyone knows and you know very well, that a certain number of African states — West Africa as well as East Africa — still have economic or trade relations, mostly discreet, with Pretoria? What do you intend to do to settle this problem? Discreet or not discreet, we know well, Mr President, that certain members of the Frontline States are forced to send miners to South African mines, for instance.

[Sassou-Nguesso] I wanted to come to that. We have conceived the problem of southern Africa in the following manner: First, it is a matter of armed struggle. Africa was criticized for recommending the settlement of the problem by violence, armed struggle, and was almost rejected by the international community. We cannot remain idle looking at the odious system of apartheid without doing anything, with our arms folded. Africa proposed the application of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the apartheid regime, against South Africa. And, in parallel, Africa asked that increased aid be granted to the Frontline States and to the liberation movements and to southern

African countries in general in the SADCC as well; and as for the Frontline States and the liberation movements, we think we should walk on both feet, apply the sanctions, support the Frontline States, because we think the sanctions that could be applied against South Africa could naturally engender consequences for the Frontline States because colonization made the economy of these countries totally and closely linked to South Africa, and we believe one should walk firmly on both feet.

[Correspondent] Do you think, on this issue of apartheid, for instance, which most European countries — well, which all European countries have condemned and criticized — do you think there is often much hypocrisy on the part of Europeans, of Europe, and perhaps of France, which still maintains important trade relations; do you expect more from France, more from Europe, more from Western democracies in the struggle against apartheid?

[Sassou-Nguesso] Of course, of course, we expect more, because I think the Americans set the tone; despite this not being the position of the American Government, at least the American Congress sets the tone; they are the American people's representatives. So, we can say that the American people — through the exercise of democracy — set the tone with clarity and firmness. We expect Europe, which is so linked to Africa; which is the closest continent to Africa [words indistinct]. We expect a more significant gesture of solidarity from Europe. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Mr President, I would like us to change the subject. I would like us to talk of another scourge which is ravaging Africa at the moment, and not only Africa, but also the United States and Europe; namely, AIDS. In a neighboring country, Zaire for example, 200,000 inhabitants out of 2 million in Kinshasa, the capital, are affected by the disease. Do you not think this is a truely political, economic problem which is within the purview of the OAU?

[Sassou-Nguesso] It is a problem within the purview of the international community, and the whole international community. What we reject is rather this sort of campaign that some are trying to launch as if to make Africa a pariah. When the problem is dealt with in this way we think it is unjust.

[Correspondent] You do not accept responsibility for the development of this scourge?

[Sassou-Nguesso] We have no reason to accept responsiblity for the development of this scourge. We know the scourge exists in Africa, elsewhere in Africa. [as heard] We have created a committee in our country to fight it.

[Correspondent] Do you realize the full measure of this scourge?

[Sassou-Nguesso] Yes, it is a very serious scourge. In the past, mankind also experienced scourges of this kind, smallpox and others. We think the international community in its entirety must mobilize itself to find a solution to this serious problem. It is a very serious problem and we are not hiding it. It is a problem that we explain to our people in all the national languages. It is not hidden. There was a meeting in Brazzaville by the African office of WHO with this issue as its main theme.

[Correspondent] Do you have figures for the Congo?

[Sassou-Nguesso] Absolutely precise figures, no, not yet. But we do not hide the fact that the problem exists in the Congo. [passage omitted]

BURKINA FASO

Burkinabe-Cuba Joint Commission Meeting Ends

AB102215 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The session of the Cuba-Burkinabe joint commission ended its deliberations in Ouagadougou this afternoon. During 5 days, the two delegations embarked upon an in-depth assessment of the results of the first cooperation program. They also drafted another cooperation plan for the period between 1987 and 1989.

The Cuban minister of justice expressed his satisfaction. This session, he said, has strengthened the ties of friendship and brotherliness between the Cuban and Burkinabe peoples. Comrade Leandre Bassole, minister of external relations and cooperation, expressed contentment with the dynamic bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

He recalled that this situation has resulted in positive actions — regular missions of experts are sent to our country; 600 Burkinabe youths are at the Isle of Youths; some Burkinabe cadres have been trained in Cuba; and so on. He said all these examples clearly demonstrate the diversity and the specificity of good cooperation between developing countries. Here, Comrade Bassole outlines the program adopted by the two countries for the 2 years ahead:

[Begin Bassole recording] Comrade minister, conerning the perspectives examined, I am pleased that we have been able to agree upon joint ventures that will enable us to broaden our relations and our economic cooperation. Despite our meager resources, the program adopted for the period between 1987 and 1989 covers, in particular, the building of a tobacco manufacturing factory, the Sahel railroad project, and a ceramics training and promotion center. The trade agreement we are about to sign also demonstrates our common desire to establish links that are mutually beneficial for our two economies. [end recording]

GHANA

Interior Ministry Group Leaves for USSR, DPRK

AB102233 Accra Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The under secretary for the interior, C.K. Mawuegnegan, has left Accra at the head of a 2-member delegation for an official visit to the Soviet Union and the DPRK. The other member of the delegation is Lieutenant Colonel Seth Ohine Asare, the director of prisons. Speaking to newsmen at the Kotoka International Airport before departure, Mr Mawuegnegan said the visit is a follow-up to one made by the member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] responsible for the interior, Brigadier Mensah-Wood, last August. He said that in both the Soivet Union and the DPRK, the delegation will hold discussions with the ministers of interior. Mr Mawuegnegan said their deliberations will center on the police force, the Immigration Department, the prisons, and fire services. The delegation will be away for 3 weeks.

LIBERIA

Acting Interior Minister on Tribal Fighting

AB102247 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Yesterday on this program, we carried a report on tribal fighting between Maryland and Grand Gedeh Counties in which one person was reportedly killed. A report which appeared in the independent *Daily Observer* newspaper and cited by the BBC also said apparently men in Army uniforms were involved. Now a senior official at the Ministry of Internal Affairs has been explaining the Ministry's position. [passage omitted recapping BBC story]

As you may have heard earlier, a senior official at the Ministry of Internal Affairs, acting Minister John Tamba, has been explaining his ministry's stand on the report. Peter Togbeh of the public affairs relations at the ministry asked acting Minister Tamba, who is also deputy minister for operations, what was the situation at the border between Grand Gedeh and Maryland Counties.

[Begin recording] [Tamba] The situation at the border of both counties, Grand Gedeh and Maryland, at this moment, we don't know what the situation is, because we have dispatched our superintendents from these areas who were here in Monrovia at the time immediately upon hearing about what is happening in that area. The firsthand information we have got was from Honorable Taylor, junior senator of Maryland County. He brought to us this information informing us of the situation in the area.

Immediately I called the senior staff together. We heard information from Mr Taylor. Immediately we dispatched a communication to the president to inform him, a communication to the Ministry of Defense to inform them, because their personnel were involved in this situation. And then we searched for the superintendents of Maryland County and Borobo District. We had them dispatched immediately to bring the situation under control and we are awaiting (?word) from them.

[Togbeh] According to this telex [words indistinct] and the information about the confusion (?over a certain) stretch in Maryland County which could belong to the citizens of Borobo in Maryland County and Grand Gedeh citizens are also there claiming the same stretch. What is it now that these counties are saying?

[Tamba] There is conflicting news in there. One paper, one letter that we received, said that the confusion is over a (?piece of land). The (?radio) rather says over a fishing (?ship). It is for this reason that we dispatched the superintendents who are governors of these respective areas to investigate the case and send us their findings.

[Togbeh] It was also rumored that some people got killed during the fighting between both the citizens of Borobo in Maryland and the citizens of Tuobo in Grand Gedeh County. You want to comment on that?

[Tamba] The information says that one person got shot and eventually died and several persons got wounded and the rest of the people fled the town, et cetera. Now I heard over BBC that they say two persons. That is not true. Up to the time I have that information only one person got shot who eventually died of the bullet wound.

[Togbeh] What about the other information about soldiers on the side of Grand Gedeh County?

[Tamba] The letter we received also said that — the letter from the acting superintendent of Borobo — said that some soldiers were (?coming) from the Grand Gedeh side and they invaded the people of the Maryland side during this time that one man got shot who eventually died and a few persons got wounded and the rest of the people fled the town. Now the statement that two or three or more persons died is not true. Up till this very moment, all we really know is that one person got shot who eventually died.

[Togbeh] Mr Minister, beside dispatching the superintendents of Maryland and Borobo to their home counties to find exactly what the situation is, what is the Ministry of Internal Affairs doing — perhaps in terms of sending some team from here for the ministry also to ascertain as to what exactly the situation is?

[Tamba] We have decided to appoint a committee [words indistinct] the hearing from our superintendents to help them to bring the situation under control. The committee is [words indistinct], and this committee is being composed of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Justice, and Lands and Mines — Lands, Mines, and Energy.

[Togbeh] Have you also informed the minister of defense about the situation, because according to information, they also involved reports of three or four soldiers on the side of Grand Gedeh.

[Tamba] Certainly. We got the information first of all from Honorable Taylor on 3 February, at about (?1515) that afternoon. The next morning, when I got here, the first thing that I got off my desk were letters to the president and a letter to the minister of defense, informing of the situation because of the involvement of their personnel. Following that, the minister of defense immediately dispatched his deputy minister for administration, who came here and we had a conference. And he also told us that they had dispatched a team over there to assess the situation, and they will inform us on the return of the team that they dispatched.

[Togbeh] There is a communication here; in fact, it was written to the president of Liberia, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe. I think the date is 3 February 1987. Now, according to this letter written by the senator of Maryland County, Honorable J. Boameh Taylor is saying that his efforts to get in touch with the minister of internal affairs were fruitless. You want to comment on that? Did he come here and he did not get to see any of you?

[Tamba] I am quite surprised to see his letter here because as I mentioned, at the very beginning of this conversation, it is from the honorable (?minister) that we got the firsthand information. On 3 February we did not hear from any of the superintendents. The first information came from Honorable Boameh Taylor. He brought a letter written to him by his county citizens informing him of the situation. And he brought that letter here to us. But before that, we did not know anything about it. And he brought that letter. We had a discussion and the next morning I informed the president and I informed the defense minister because of the involvement of their personnel. Now I am surprised to know that Honorable Taylor will say that he did not see the minister of internal affairs. I am acting for the minister. [passage omitted]

Maybe he had in mind to say he did not see Minister Sackor, but he certainly found the minister of internal affairs. I am acting for Minister Sackor. [end recording]

Radio ELWA Notes $17 Million Satellite Agreement

AB101839 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] A $17 million agreement has been signed in Monrovia for the construction of a standard A earth satellite station in the country. According to the 10 February issue of the *New Liberian* newspaper, the agreement was signed yesterday by representatives of Spar Aerospace International (a Canadian firm), Meridian Bank International, and the management of the Liberian Telecommunications Corporation [LTC]. The new earth satellite is consistent with Intelsat specifications, and it will ensure continuous communications links between Liberia and the rest of the world. It will also improve local telephone and telex services.

LTC's managing director, Samuel R. Watkins, and LTC's board chairman, Brigadier General (Moses K. Craig), signed for their corporation, while the senior vice president of the Meridian Bank, Mr Donald S. Reynolds, and the director of marketing of Spar Aerospace, Stephen Pallavicini, signed for their respective agencies.

An LTC spokesman is quoted by the *New Liberian* newspaper as saying that the project is being funded with a loan negotiated with the Meridian Bank from a consortium of foreign banks as well as Canadian and Italian Government financial sources.

NIGERIA

Newspaper Urges Government Support of Naira

AB101405 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 10 Feb 87

[From the Press Review]

[Text] The *National Concord* calls on the Federal Government to take certain measures to prevent a further depreciation of the naira against other international currencies on the Second-Tier Foreign Exchange Market [SFEM]. The paper advises the government to ensure that the ugly experience of other African countries that have introduced this scheme is not repeated in Nigeria. The *Concord* wants private non-oil exporters to join the government in funding the SFEM, because, according to it, their products have been enjoying an unprecedented boom in foreign markets.

SIERRA LEONE

Curfew Imposed on Kono After Looting, Violence

AB101652 Paris AFP in English 1612 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Freetown, Feb 10 (AFP) — A seven-hour curfew has been imposed in the diamond mining town of Kono after looting and violence by students and other youths, police said here Tuesday.

A police spokesman said that the trouble erupted over the weekend as the rioters attacked public buildings and the offices of the ruling All People's Congress. They removed telephones from government buildings and carted off crates of books which were to be distributed under the British-sponsored text book scheme. Commercial banks were also attacked but bank officials could not say how much was lost.

So far, 77 people have been arrested and are due to appear in court shortly on charges of riotous conduct. Only nine of those arrested have been identified as students.

The Kono incident comes two weeks after trouble in Bo and Kenema, where rioting students damaged government properties, looted businesses, and set fire to the party offices.

A top-level inquiry has reportedly been mounted into police conduct in the Bo incident and a report is expected in two weeks.

ANGOLA

UNITA Claims To Destroy Cuito River Bridge

MB100740 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The Angolan UNITA movement has announced in Lisbon that its forces have destroyed a strategic bridge in the southeastern Province of Cuando Cubango. UNITA said in a statement that the destruction of the bridge over the Cuito River was part of a campaign to cut the supply routes of the MPLA government forces who were advancing on UNITA positions at (Kwiko).

24 Soviet Lecturers To Join Health Sector

MB090602 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] A total of 24 Soviet lecturers will soon join the health sector of Angola. This was disclosed by Arnold Kalinin, Sovietambassador to Angola, when he presented a donation consisting of medicine, surgical instruments, and other equipment worth $300,000. The donation will be sent to the Lubango City Hospital.

MALAWI

Currency Devaluated 20 Percent 8 February

MB081540 Dakar PANA in English 1312 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Text] Lilongwe, 8 Feb (MANA/PANA) — Malawi today devalued its currency, the kwacha, by 20 per cent against a basket of the world's major currencies to which it is pegged. The Reserve Bank of Malawi said in a statement that the measure was taken as part and parcel of the country's efforts to ensure the competitiveness of Malawi's exports on markets abroad. The move would also redress the deterioration in the country's balance of payments, the statement added.

It said that the government is continuing its effort of implementing the World Bank's structural adjustment programme which, among other objectives, is designed to improve the country's export potential as well as to encourage an efficient resource allocation system.

The kwacha is pegged to the dollar, sterling, Deutsche mark and the French franc, among the major currencies.

MOZAMBIQUE

Lisbon: Renamo Sets Terms for Negotiations

LD072012 Lisbon International Service in Portuguese 1915 GMT 7 Feb 87

[Text] Renamo, the opposition movement to the Maputo government, has demanded conditions for negotiations with the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique. One prominent condition is the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the country and the restoration of an atmosphere of conciliation conducive to the holding of elections.

In a communique signed by Renamo President Gen Afonso Dhlakhama and distributed in Lisbon and conveyed by the news agency LUSA, the armed movement challenges statements by the head of the Mozambican state. According to the Renamo communique, the president of the People's Republic of Mozambique and Frelimo, Joaquim Chissano, is said to have stated that talks with the opposition movement would not be an option for Frelimo, because they do not know who they should talk to put an end to the civil war. Gen Dhlakhama disputes this, saying that Joaquim Chissano certainly knows who is fighting his regime and knows who leads Renamo. He also says that if Chissano is really interested in negotiating for peace in Mozambique he should contact us. He ends with this comment: We have always been ready to negotiate for peace.

Frelimo Deputy Secretary Receives CPSU Group

MB110924 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] A CPSU delegation arrived in Maputo this morning to hold talks with Frelimo Party oficials. The delegation is headed by Semen Kuzmich Grossu, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Communist Party of Moldavia's Central Committee. The Soviet delegation was received at Maputo's International Airport by Jose Luis Cabaco, deputy secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee for external relations.

SOUTH AFRICA

P.W. Botha Favors Talks With Regional Leaders

MB101418 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1410 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly February 10 SAPA — The South African Government was in favour of talks with leaders of neighbouring states, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha said today in reply to a question from the leader of the official opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, on whether he intended to meet President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique to discuss the Nkomati Accord. Mr Botha said however that it was not usual to make public announcements about such talks.

115 SADF Dead in 1986 Operations, Training

MB101427 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1425 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly February 10 SAPA — A total of 115 members of the SA Defence Force were killed in military operations and training accidents last year, the deputy minister of defence, Mr Wynand Breytenbach, said today in reply to a question from Mr Brian Goodall (PFP Edenvale).

SAIRR Reviews Fatalities of Political Violence

MB101431 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1428 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Johannesburg Feb 10 SAPA — Political violence claimed at least 2,326 lives between the beginning of September and the end of last year but fatalities had declined sharply since the middle of 1986, the SA Institute of Race Relations [SAIRR] said today.

The average daily fatality rate between Jan 1 1986 and the end of the first State of Emergency was 3.8, while the rate had gone up to 6.4 after the emergency had been lifted. Since the imposition of the second emergency the rate had dropped to 2.1.

Conflict within black communities had accounted for about half the 1,298 fatalities in 1986, while deaths at the hands of security forces nad accunted for about a third.

The remainder occurred in other kinds of violence including insurgency attacks and circumstances that were not clear.

May last year was the worst month, with 221 deaths, the institute said.

The Transvaal (including all five of its homelands) accounted for nearly 58 per cent of the fatalities, the eastern Cape for nearly 20 per cent, and Natal (including KwaZulu) for about 8 per cent.

The institute said its figures included "independent" as well as non-independent homelands but stressed they were not definitive.

The constraints of recent press curbs on the gathering and classification of data — never an easy task — meant the actual number of fatalities was probably much higher.

AWB's Terre'Blanche Offers Help to HNP, CP

MB101327 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1309 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Pretoria Feb 10 SAPA — Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging leader Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche today announced that he was putting his dormant Blanke Volksstaat [White National State] "at the disposal" of the feuding Herstigte Nasionale Party and the Conservative Party. "Take this party, run with it, and accomplish the feasts of which it is able," he told a lively meeting of University of Pretoria students. More than 2,000 cheering and jeering students crammed a campus hall to hear Mr Terre'Blanche plead for an election pact between the HNP and CP.

He said both parties had accepted an AWB formula to form one rightist party, but they wanted too much time. Mr Terre'Blanche, who said he was acting as an arbiter between the CP and HNP, anounced a rally to be held on February 28 in a bid to facilitate an alliance. He jibed State President P.W. Botha for establishing a system in which a fellow minister could not bathe with him but ruled a country with him, and said the government should tell the Americans to "take their Ford bakkies [trucks] with their rotten suspension" and get out of the country.

In contrast to the normally hushed reverence of AWB audiences, a segment of the audience slung interjections at the 43-year-old former policeman — but his legendary booming voice rode roughshod over most of them.

Mr Terre'Blanche said the AWB would not become involved in party politics but would fight the African National Congress "beyond the hills of the election." "Afrikaners need to own their land to be Afrikaners," he said. The country could not be made the guinea pig for a (black majority) system which had failed elsewhere in Africa. The ANC did not represent a nation but wanted to implement a communist world-state in South Africa, he warned.

CP Cautious to Offer

MB101533 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 9 Feb 87 p 5

[Text] The National State Party of the AWB is going to be reactivated to take part in the forthcoming general elections. "Take the party and accomplish something with it," Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche said at a meeting in Brits on Saturday. AWB leader Eugene Terre'Blanche will not personally take part in the general election. He is making the National State Party available as a unity party for right-wing groups. He told his audience of his plan to hold a rally in Pretoria on 28 February when he will offer the National State Party to the two right-wing parties [HNP, CP]. Mr Terre'Blanche was loudly cheered by his AWB supporters.

Dr Treurnicht [CP leader] reacted cautiously to the news that Mr Terre'Blanche wanted to reactivate the National State Party so that it could particpate in the 6 May general election. He acknowledged that he had heard something about the plan. He said that he would not comment before he had had a personal peaceful discussion with Mr Terre'Blanche. Reacting to a question on how he felt about Mr Terre'Blanche offering the National State Party as a unity party, Dr Treurnicht said the CP was already a unity party.

Mr Jaap Marais [HNP leader] was not available for comment yesterday.

PFP MP Resigns Over Differences With Policies

MB101749 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1748 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Cape Town Feb 10 SAPA — Mr Horace van Rensburg, the Progressive Federal Party member of parliament for Bryanston, has announced his resignation from the party.

In a four-page letter to the leader of the party, Mr Colin Eglin, which he has released to the press, Mr van Rensburg said he had viewed certain events and trends in the party with concern and had on many occasions attempted to bring them to the attention of the party leadership. He believed he could do this best as a member of parliament. "Recent events have, however, persuaded me that this belief is no longer valid."

"The PFP has established scientifically that twice as many people support its broad principles as vote for it. This is a devastating indictment of the party and its leadership," Mr van Rensburg wrote.

He also said that "as an Afrikaner, I have always been painfully aware of the deep-seated anti-Afrikaner animosities that prevail in some PFP quarters." "In recent times, I have personally experienced the intense anti-Afrikaner hostility that surfaces when the flimsy veneer that normally shrouds this ugly prejudice in the PFP is ripped aside. Afrikaners are wanted in the PFP only to give it the 'right' image, to 'recruit' other Afrikaners and to do the really hard work in the rural areas, but we must also 'know our place' and when we are no longer wanted, we are summarily cast aside."

The full text of Mr Van Rensburg's letter is as follows;

Dear Colin,

It is with deep regret that I have to submit my resignation from the PFF.

I have for some time viewed certain events and trends in the party with concern and have on many occasions attempted to bring my reservations to the attention of the party leadership.

I have always believed that I could best contribute to improving the party's policies, performance and image by my public and private endeavours as a PFP member of parliament. Recent events have, however, persuaded me that this belief is no longer valid.

The PFP has established scientifically that twice as many people support its broad principles as vote for it.

This is a devastating indictment of the party and its leadership.

At a time when the country is experiencing critical economic and political problems and the government has been in power for 39 years, the PFP should get 10 to 15 per cent more votes than the number of people who support its broad principles. Yet this is not so.

The reason lies in the negative public image of the party which in turn derives from a long history of public statements and actions which have generated public distrust and disaffection.

The text continues:

1. The public don't trust their destiny or their security in the hands of the PFP. They see a strong undercurrent inexorably dragging the party in a radical leftist direction.

The party is seen as an uneasy coalition between a majority of moderate, responsbile ordinary members of the public who want to see a truly just society based on democracy and private enterprise, who support the PFP's broad principles but don't necessarily support all its policies and a small minority of radical leftist elements, inside and outside the party, who appear to be in control of aspects of the PFP's thinking and some areas of its organisation. My thinking reflects accurately that of the majority and is diametrically opposed to that of the minority.

The PFP's equivocal attitude to the SACP/ANC alliance alarms many of its supporters who will not tolerate any concessions whatsoever to Marxism/Communism in any shape or form. PFP statements and actions create the impression that the PFP has decided that the ANC will triumph.

The PFP's proposed constitutional and legal mechanisms have no more chance of stopping the devious and determined SACP than a red light has of stopping a runaway train.

2. The PFP loses public trust when it deliberately obscures the true nature and implications of its policies.

a) The PFP's constitutional proposals are based on a vote for every citizen on a common voters roll that will result in a federal parliament with a large black majority, a federal cabinet with a large black majority and a black head of state. The same pattern will prevail in every state within the federation.

b) The PFP, if it came to power, would open all residential areas to all races.

c) Similarly it would open all schools to all races on a neighbourhood basis.

Mr Van Rensburg's letter continues:

I have always spelt these policies out fearlessly.

Everybody in the party should do the same if they believe in them.

If the PFP is fearful that their voters may desert them if they do, they should reconsider their policies.

3. As an Afrikaner I have always been painfully aware of the deep-seated anti-Afrikaner animosities that prevail in some PFP quarters. No Afrikaner who is not prepared to turn his back on his people, their history and their aspirations, can ever be truly welcome or comfortable in the PFP.

In recent times, I have personally experienced the intense anti-Afrikaner hostility that surfaces when the flimsy veneer that normally shrouds this ugly prejudice in the PFP is ripped aside.

Afrikaners are wanted in the PFP only to give it the "right" image, to "recruit" other Afrikaners and to do the really hard work in the rural areas, but we must always "know our place" and when we are no longer wanted we are summarily cast aside.

I am grateful to the PFP constituency organisations from all parts of the SA that have required me to be their candidate, but unfortunately I cannot accept their offers. It is ironic that they all say I am the only man who can win against the Nats in their seats whilst in Bryanston, the safe Nationalist seat I captured 18 years ago, and have by virtue of sustained hard work made into a safe PFP seat, I am not acceptable.

Mr Van Rensburg's letter concludes:

I will always cherish fond memories of many good friends in the PFP and of hard battles fought with vigour and dedication.

From the day that we formed the PRP (Progressive Reform Party, the precursor to the PFP) I worked as hard and as well as I could to futher our cause. I beleive that I did as much as any party could ask of any member.

I remain a true liberal dedicated to freedom and justice and will continue to strive for these values.

It is cause for sadness that my conscience, my convictions and my deep love for South Africa does not allow me to remain a member of the PFP.

PFP Reacts to Announcement

MB101822 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1819 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Cape Town Feb 10 SAPA — Reacting to the resignation of Mr Horace van Rensburg, his former party leader, Mr Colin Eglin, said he was "disappointed" and "surprised." He was disappointed that Mr van Rensburg had decided to resign and he was surprised at the issues which Mr van Rensburg alleged caused the resignation.

"I am not really surprised at his resignation, as it became a distinct possibility once he calculated that he was unlikely to get the nomination for Bryanston. I am, however, surprised at the issues which Mr van Rensburg alleges caused him to resign. At no stage till a week ago did he raise any of these issues with me.

"On the contrary, when I went to Johannesburg in the latter part of last year in an attempt to resolve the differences he was having with his constituency he indicated to me that he was an enthusiastic member and keen to go back to Parliament as the member for Bryanston. Mr van Rensburg must live with is own conscience bearing in mind that there has been no change of PFP policies from those which he as a member of the caucus helped to formulate and on which he was quite content to be twice elected to paliament," Mr Eglin said.

NP Leader on Resignation

MB101814 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1755 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Cape Town Feb 10 SAPA — It would be interesting to see whether other leading PFP men who shared Mr Horace van Rensburg's feelings, had the courage to follow him, Mr F.W. de Klerk, leader of the Transvaal National Party said tonight. Asked to comment on the Bryanston MP's resignation he said it was ironical that while the PFP and its press delighted themselves over the alleged groupings within the National Party, Mr van Rensburg had provided such clear evidence of the deep divisions within the PFP itself. "While the PFP suffers its trauma, the National Party remains convinced that those who out of inner conviction belonged together would find one another," he said. On inquiry he had not had any contact with Mr van Rensburg and had not any request from him to join the National Party.

Treurnicht: CP Enjoys 'Enthusiastic' Support

MB061223 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1113 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Cape Town Feb 6 SAPA — The Conservative Party was receiving enthusiastic and growing support and it was therefore not necessary to react to attacks on the party by the HNP, the leader of the CP, Mr Andries Treurnicht, said today.

In a statement he said the CP's aim was to bring to an end the National Party's "disastrous political direction", and it had tried for some time to form a united right wing political party. "These efforts were evidenced by the Party's congress in October last year and the massive gathering of rightists in the Skilpad Hall on January 24."

He said the right-wing movement was gathering momentum, and the CP was enjoying "growing and enthusiastic support" from all regions. "Therefore, it makes no sense to react any further to attacks in the press by the leader of the HNP, Mr Jaap Marais," he said.

Court Challenge To Ad Restrictions Withdrawn

MB101805 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1741 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Pietermaritzburg Feb 10 SAPA — A United Democratic Front and Release Mandela Campaign [RMC] challenge to a government order prohibiting newspaper from publishing reports or advertisements which promote the aims of an unlawful organisation was withdrawn in the Pietermaritzburg Supre Court today. The application was withdrawn after counsel for the commissioner of police and the minister of law and order conceded the invalidity of the order in the light of a recent Rand Supreme Court decision.

The order in question was promulgated on January 8, and followed the publishing of full-page advertisements in many English-language newspapers calling for the unbanning of the African National Congress.

The court today ordered that the costs of the UDF and RMC applicants. [sentence as received] However, the UDF told the court today that it will challenge an order promulgated on January 29 after the Rand Supreme Court decision.

This latest order gives far-reaching powers to the commissioner of police to censor "any news, comment or advertisement." The hearing was adjourned to April 2.

Commentary Claims Government Committed to Reform

MB071041 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 7 Feb 87

[Station commentary: "South Africa's Commitment to Reform"]

[Text] In the past year, South Africa has experienced the most fundamental reforms in her history as an independent state. Yet,

within South Africa one of the most hotly argued political issues has been whether there is really a commitment by the authorities to reform. The question mark on reform has been raised repeatedly during the motions of no-confidence now being debated in parliament in Cape Town. If political parties in South Africa scoff at the fundamental reforms that have taken place, it is perhaps little wonder that many people overseas believe that reform in South Africa is cosmetic and meaningless. One can but repeat: In the past year, South Africa has experienced the most fundamental reforms in her history as an independent state. That is the factual position.

As for the continuing commitment by the authorities to reform, a categoric pledge has come from Mr F.W. de Klerk, a senior cabinet minister, and chairman of the Minister's Council in the House of Assembly. The National Party government, Mr de Klerk has said, is irrevocably committed to reform. Mr de Klerk also said that the notion that reform was dead, or that the NP had lost its will for reform was void of all truth. One problem is that too few black leaders have come forward in a positive manner to take part in the negotiations and consensus process. Another is that revolutionaries, such as those in the communist-controlled ANC, do not want peaceful consultations but want to dictate political direction through the barrel of a gun. This represents a serious brake on meaningful reform. A third problem is the incessant foreign interference in South Africa, which seeks to harden attitudes and plays right into the hands of those opposed to reform.

These are the problems, but they will have to be overcome. The doors to change are open, and the government's commitment to reform is strong and firm.

Radio Views Importance of Population Control

MB110527 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] A report this week on surveys conducted in black urban centres throws light on two areas of abiding concern in South African affairs: the progress made in socioeconomic reform, and the population growth rate. It also provides striking confirmation of the correlation between rising living standards and declining birth rates in a community.

The report concerned a survey conducted by the Bureau for Market Research of the University of South Africa [UNISA] in 12 major urban areas. It found, comparing statistics for children in different age groups, that there had been a definite decline in the black birth rate in those areas. Also, for 1985 average household income had reached nearly R10,000 in Soweto.

The continuing rise in incomes in black communities is a handy measure of their rate of socioeconomic advancement. That progress in that sphere has been substantial is clearly demonstrated by the findings of this survey and of others made before.

Whether the rate has been satisfactory is a matter of subjective opinion, as judgements on any development question invariably are.

What cannot be disputed is that there is a process now firmly under way in the urban centers of South Africa — a process of rising living standards that reflects better education and better technological skills, higher and better paid positions being occupied in commerce and industry, and steadily improving standards of housing, transport and material comforts in general.

No less significant is the by-product of the process; the decline in the birth rate in those communities. For South Africa, facing the prospect of massive overpopulation if the present three percent overall growth rate continues, the importance of this phenomenon cannot be over-emphasised. Various studies in other parts of the world, and some evidence that had already emerged in South Africa, have drawn attention to the link between the quality of life of a community and its population growth rate.

Indeed, discounting draconian coercive measures such measures such as those imposed in Communist China, social scientists have come to the conclusion that rising socioeconomic standards are the only effective way of reducing birth rates.

There can be no doubt that if South Africa is to avoid the unmanageable turmoil that will accompany degeneration into overpopulation and stagnation, great efforts will have to be applied to the improvement of the quality of life of its less developed communities.

The positive trend that is discernible in its major centers must extend throughout the region.

This is the task of the national population development program, with its emphasis not so much on direct control measures as on development aimed at directly improving the quality of life of people in all environments. This week, after a meeting of ministers from South Africa and the TBVC [Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei] states, it was decided to launch the program on an even wider scale.

But action by the authorities alone, no matter how heavily committed, can never be sufficient. The fact that the first positive changes are taking place in the big urban centers is an indication that the most powerful stimulus to socioeconomic development is the urban setting itself — its access to jobs and opportunities for individual enterprise in a dymanically competitive milieu. No form of development is more rapid or enduring than that which arises from the individual's own efforts when he is given a chance to apply them. The UNISA findings on declining birthrates and rising living standards show that it can be done.

Three Arrested at Winnie Mandela's Home

MB101611 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1604 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Johannesburg Feb 10 SAPA — Police arrested three young men at the Soweto home of Mrs Winnie Mandela today.

A spokesman at her home said police this afternoon searched the house and then took away the three, who were working in the garden. Nothing was confiscated.

The spokesman said Mrs Mandela was going to Protea police station in the township to find out why the three were taken away.

Police today denied they raided the home of the wife of the leader of the African National Congress seven times last Friday.

Mrs Mandela reportedly said police raided her house seven times and climbed over walls and searched rooms.

SA Police Directorate spokesman, Lieut Robbie Olivier, said in Pretoria: "The SA Police did visit Mrs Mandela's home on Friday February 6 in connection with a routine police investigation. It is however denied that her home was raided seven times."

Mrs Mandela reportedly said the police visited her home throughout the day and questioned her each time.

[SAPA prefaces this item: "Editors: The following may contravene emergency regulations. A copy has been sent to the IPLC [International Press Liaison Center] for their response."]

Boesak, Tutu Warn of Recurrence of Violence
MB061500 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1425 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Cape Town Feb 6 SAPA — Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, warned today that unless something positive happened in the next few weeks there would be a repetition of the violence which swept through Crossroads last May.

Dr Boesak issued the warning in Miller's Camp, a settlement near Crossroads, after he and the archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Rev Desmond Tutu, other clerics and members of overseas diplomatic missions visited the Crossroads area. Dr Boesak said he and Archbishop Tutu went to Miller's Camp to express their support for the leaders of the communities "who are again being threatened".

Three settlements, Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and Portlands Cement, were destroyed last year when fighting broke out in Crossroads.

Dr Boesak said he spent three days in the area in that period and heard first-hand accounts of the tragedy. "I see the same symptoms. If something does not happen within the next few weeks we will again go through the same senseless murders and violence."

Archbishop Tutu said an impression had been created that calm was returning to South Africa. "Many of us thought the troubles here had ended. What we have heard is very deeply distressing," he said. It was unthinkable that a country with so much wealth did possess the good sense to try to avoid a repetition of last year's fighting at Crossroads.

He said a Mr Sipika, leader of the Nyanga Extension squatters, had addressed the clergymen on behalf of law-abiding people who wanted to live normal lives in an abnormal society. He appealed to the government to recognise "that these people are not temporary birds of passage" and they should be given permanent homes.

Earlier, Mr Sipika, Mr Christopher Toise, leader of the Portlands Cement Group, and Mr Milton Mbewana, who represented squatters at KTC, were presented to the clergymen and the press.

Mr Bjarne Lindstorm, consul-general of Norway, and Mr Jan Lundvik of the Swedish legation, accompanied Dr Boesak and Archbishop Tutu to Crossroads. Also present were members of the Western Province Council of Churches, and Monsignor Henry of the Roman Catholic Church.

Minister Details Teargassing of Detainees
MB101645 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1620 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly February 10 SAPA — The minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, today released details of 20 incidents since the declaration of the State of Emergency in 1985 in which teargas was used against detainees in prisons.

Replying to a question from Mr Jan van Eck (PFP Claremont), Mr Coetsee described incidents in which detainees assaulted prison staff with eating utensils and wooden planks; refused to allow fellow detainees due to be released to be taken from their ranks; prevented the door of their cell being locked by pushing a broom into the door; and set blankets and clothing alight in their cells. Included in the 20 cases was an incident in Johannesburg medium prison on January 24 this year in which a group of about 300 detainees "trapped a few staff members in a corridor."

"In order to gain control, the head of the prison ordered that tear-smoke be used," Mr Coetsee said. "Two detainees sustained minor injuries and consulted a physician."

Mr Coetsee also described the teargasssing at Victor Verster prison near Paarl in August last year, where, he said, 43 detainees gathered in the courtyard of the prison after lunch and ignored instructions from staff to return to their section.

They also ignored requests from the head of the prison, and staff reinforcements were summoned. "The head of the prison again instructed the group to move to their section and in the process the detainees threw their stainless steel mugs at the members on duty. At that state aerosol cannisters containing tear smoke were used to help gain control of the situation."

Among other occasions described by Mr Coetsee where tear gas was used were ones at:

— Middelburg prison in June 1986 where detainees "made a row and shouted slogans and refused to respond to orders";

— Bethulie prison in August 1986 where "one detainee had to be taken from his cells for release. However the other detainees

charged the staff and the head of the prison ordered that tear-smoke be used to restore order";

— St Alban's medium prison near Port Elizabeth in September 1986 where, during lunch, detainees "assaulted personnel with stainless steel eating utensils, wooden planks and crossbars from scaffolds";

— Upington prison in November 1986 when detainees refused to enter their cell;

— Victor Verster maximum prison in November 1986 where detainees "prevented the door of their cell from being locked by pushing a broom into the door", and again later the same month when detainees attached towels and belts to their stainless steel mugs in order to use them as weapons against staff; and

— Vereeniging prison in November 1986 where detainees set blankets and clothing alight in their cell and put mugs and other objects into socks to "serve as self-made weapons to assault members of the staff."

Mr Coetsee said detainees were allowed to play sport, move about freely under supervision in courtyards and were taken from their cells when visited by families, for medical consultations or consultations with lawyers. "They sometimes refuse to go back to their cells when ordered to do so and during these occasions a threatening and aggressive attitude is taken towards supervising staff." "In such situations prisons staff were committed to the use of minimum force. [quotation marks as received] "The use of tearsmoke is subject to strict rules and serves as an alternative when all other effective options to defuse a potentially dangerous situation have been exhausted and where it is obvious that violence aimed at fellow-detainees or personnel has to be prevented, property be protected from wanton and malicious damage and order be restored."

Unrest Report Issued for 10 Feb Incidents

MB110756 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0752 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Pretoria Feb 11 SAPA — The following is the Bureau for Information, Pretoria's, unrest situation report for the period 00h01 to 24h00 yesterday:

"Unrest-related incidents reported during the above period comprised stone throwing at a SAP vehicle, a private vehicle and buses as well as petrol bomb attacks on a private home and a bus.

"The last mentioned bus was damaged considerably while damages in other incidents were minimal.

"No injuries or arrests were reported in any of these incidents."

Ends report.

Press Comments on Current Problems, Issues

MB110752 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN Welcomes Mini-Budget

"Taxpayers will welcome the tax concessions made by Minister of Finance Barend du Plessis in his mini-budget yesterday," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 10 February. "The Opposition will no doubt call it can election sweetner." As for the announcement on pay increases for public servants it has been held over to the main budget which will be presented in June, after the election. The government has therefore, "resisted the temptation to 'buy' the votes of public servants by announcing the increases now. This is to the government's credit, since this election is far too important to be influenced by any form of 'bribery.'" The paper also says: "We hesitate to suggest that there might be a boomlet, but even if the recovery is not as extensive as one might hope, it will at least provide better conditions for growth and greater job opportunities. Coincidental with this, we can take further comfort from the fact that there is a greater realisation in Britain, the United States and other countries that sanctions are not working."

THE STAR Critical of Mini-Budget

"Superficial satisfaction with yesterday's mini-budget should not be allowed to cloud the fundamental economic issues which the Minister of Finance might or might not have addressed," says a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 10 February. "In essence, yesterday's presentation was little more than an exercise in fine-tuning a fiscal infrastructure which in recent years has shown distinct signs of buckling." "Indeed, the stimulatory tone running through the mini-budget tacitly recognises the shortcomings of existing tax laws. The additional money destined to flow into taxpayers' pockets (viewed by some as a vote-catching ploy) merely compensates them (and then only partially) for the purchasing power they have surrended over years of debilitating inflation."

Minister Critical of Indaba Proposals

On the same page Bruce Cameron interviews Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis after his appearance on television's "Network" program, where opposition politicians and the KwaZulu/Natal Indaba administration, accused him of making misleading statements. Cameron writes that "Mr Heunis was adamant that the Indaba proposals did not protect group rights and as such were not acceptable to the Government." "Mr Heunis said the Government could not be expected to give approval to a set of proposals that 'by their own definition are incomplete.'" "Mr Heunis questioned the fact that the proposals were a majority report, saying delegates had signed in their personal capacity and not on behalf of their organisations." "If the proposals remained as they were they were rejected as the Government believed in 'equal group participation. The proposals represent majority rule.'" "Asked about his previous undertaking to consider a public testing of the proposals, Mr Heunis stressed that only proposals which were acceptable to the Government would be tested by a referendum or referenda."

BUSINESS DAY on Mini-Budget

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 10 February says: "The mini-budget presented to Parliament by Finance Minister Barend du Plessis is, at first glance, as good as might be expected under the difficult circumstances of an election campaign in a time of siege. The Part Appropriation Bill is vulnerable, of course, to accusations of electioneering, but it could have been worse." "Though it has become trite and boring to say so, it is necessary for the sake of perspective to emphasise the need for fundamental structural changes in the way this country operates. Long-term solutions will not emerge from tidy budgets and paternal social spending in the townships."

CAPE TIMES on Security Force Township Repression

A page 6 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 9 February says: "Veteran civil rights campaigner Mrs Helen Suzman has, under protection of parliamentary privilege, made a series of highly disturbing disclosures about security force actions in the rural Western Cape township of Zolani outside Montague and further afield. According to Mrs Suzman, the government has been 'ruthlessly using every method available' — including active assistance to vigilantes — to smash the burgeoning urban black civic associations around the country." "It is indeed shocking that this disturbing information can only emerge because of the efforts of a vigilant opposition MP." "It is high time the authorities did something about the real causes of conflict in Zolani — and elsewhere — instead of resorting to naked repression."

SOWETAN: South Africans Aware of Lack of Democracy

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 10 February notes that "the leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, is correct when he says we are entering an era of McCarthyism in South Africa when innuendo and rumour and selective quotations, made from positions of privilege, are used to denigrate political opponents." "When a regime erodes the civil liberties of one section of the country, the cancer spreads to include everybody. South Africans, who have in a way been deliberately blind to the extent to which the ruling party was going, have now tumbled to the terrible truth that there is no longer any democracy left." "The trouble with this country is, while black people were well aware that the regime was slowly sliding towards a point of no return, the rest of the population was prepared, almost cheerfully, to live off their privilege. The penny has at last dropped."

DIE VADERLAND: Mineral Resources To Fight Sanctions

"Sanctions can and will harm South Africa, but it need not break us," says a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 9 February. "We have not only the potential tosurvive it, but also to emerge even stronger people. To be in a position to overcome, proper quantity surveying of our resources and our potential is necessary. It is especially necessary that these resources and potential be utilized to their fullest. This paper has for many years expressed its concern that this country's mineral resources are not utilized to the fullest." "We believe that the refinement and processing of our minerals can contribute greatly to the struggle against sanctions. It can strengthen our internal economy, and create more job opportunities."

DIE REPUBLIKEIN on ANS

Windhoek *Die Republikein* in Afrikaans on 9 February in a page 4 editorial welcomes the arrival of the Action for National Settlement (ANS) group. The paper points out the importance of the organization which has "a group of mature and seasoned politicians" who hope to survive by choosing to "operate outside of the political arena." "The fine aims of the ANS are above criticism, but whether they can be achieved outside of party politics, only time will tell." *Die Republikein* points out that the ANS is "no new discovery. If the ANS is striving for reconciliation, it does not mean that other groups before it have not had the same ideals. Therefore, it is only self evident that this group will be watched carefully."

ZIMBABWE

Government To Raise Money Through Stock Issue

MB060643 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] The government is to float a new 15-year $120 million loan bearing an annual interest rate of 13.1 percent against the issue of local registered stock. According to a Reserve Bank statement, yesterday the purchase price will be $100 per (?share) and the interest will be payable semiannually on 20 February and 20 August, with the first payment due on 20 August this year. The stock will be redeemed at par on 20 February in the year 2002. Subscription lists will be opened at 0900 on Friday, 20 February and will close when the loan has been fully subscribed, or at the latest, at noon on the same day.

The purpose of the loan is to assist in financing expenditure in connection with economic, social, and administrative services in Zimbabwe.